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BIRTHS.

At Capsuimoon Customs Station, on the 28th February, the wife of C. P. C. LYNBORG, of a daughter. [590]

On Sunday, the 1st March, the wife of GEORGE SACHSE, of a son. [604]

At Shanghai, on the 21st February, the wife of CHARLES GRANT, of twins; son and daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 20th February, at the British Consulate, Yokohama, by Mr. J. Carey Hall, and afterwards at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. C. Irwine, ETTIE, eldest daughter of Captain C. YOUNG, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, to Mr. EDWARD B. STUART EDWARDS, third son of the late Mr. EDWARD EDWARDS, Boreton, Salop, England.

DEATHS.

On the 27th February, at his residence, Barnstaple, N. Devon, RICHARD BUDD, M.D., F.R.C.P., in his 87th year. (By telegram.) [579]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 31st January arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 29th February (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A ball was given at the Chinese Legation at Tokyo on the 17th February. Madame Yu and the Misses Yu were dressed in foreign costume.

The revised treaty between Denmark and Japan has been ratified by the King of Denmark and the ratifications will shortly be exchanged.

Singapore has declared Hongkong infected with plague and quarantine of ten days, including the time occupied by the passage, is imposed on all vessels which have Chinese on board.

It is now stated that Marquis Ito has decided not to go to Russia. The Tokyo News Agency states that Marquis Yamagata has been commanded to go instead.

The Japanese survey of Formosa, we learn, is now nearly completed. The emigration and immigration of Chinese has almost ceased, passports being required on leaving or landing on the island.

On the 23rd February the powder magazine at Kiangyin exploded, causing a loss, according to report, of two hundred lives, besides which many were wounded. There has recently been some trouble in the camp, owing to the soldiers not receiving their pay, and there is a suspicion that the explosion was designed.

A Chinese official at Shanghai, who has a relative appointed as an *attache* to the Embassy going to Russia to attend the coronation of the Czar, has received a telegraphic despatch from Peking stating that the indications are that H.E. Li Hung-chang will not go to Russia, but that a Manchur of high rank will go instead as Chief and Shao Yu-lien as Vice-Ambassador.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, for the past half-year shows a balance at credit of profit and loss account (after writing off \$4,288 for bad debts and \$4,698 for improvements to buildings and additions to furniture) of \$8,175, as compared with \$576 on 31st December, 1894, and a debit balance of \$10,379 on 31st December, 1893. It is proposed to write \$5,000 off furniture and to carry the remainder of the balance to next account.

During the year 1895 no less than 100 different men-of-war of all nationalities visited Nagasaki. Of course the number of man-of-war entries is much greater, some of them coming here as many as five or six times during the twelve months. And large as these numbers are, those of this year give every indication of being larger. The large increase in the Far Eastern fleets of the powers and disturbed state of the political atmosphere being the prime factors in bringing this about.—*Rising Sun*.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—Silver is at last at a heavy discount among the natives. The dollar has been down to 915 large cash; the approach of the China New Year always appreciates cash, but never before has the appreciation grown to anything like the present. The normal quotation varies between 1,050 and 1,100; at previous New Years it has fallen to 1,000 or 1,020, but this year's fall is quite phenomenal and involves no little hardship to all the classes whose pay rises to the dignity of silver.

It is stated that the total loss to the Insurance Companies by the recent big fire at Kobe will not fall far short of \$75,000. The London and Lancashire and New Zealand Fire are most involved, from \$35,000 to \$50,000 being the expected liability. The Commercial Union's loss is expected to be \$10,000. The Alliance Fire Insurance Co. had \$2,000 on Captain Kreidner's property, much of which was safely removed. The Guardian or South British lose \$2,000, the Hongkong Fire about \$2,000, the Norwich Union or London Assurance Company about \$4,000. The Liverpool, London, and Globe is also interested, though only to a slight extent.

The Manager of the Hongkong Branch of the Straits Insurance Co., Limited, has received a telegram from his head office, Singapore, stating that the net premium for 1895 was \$1,100,000, the balance of working account is \$550,000, balance of profit and loss account \$100,000, dividend to be declared 10 per cent., amount to be added to reserve fund \$20,000.

A Tokyo telegram of the 20th February to the *China Gazette* reads:—The King of Korea will remove in a few days from the Russian Legation, where he has been staying with the other members of the Royal Family, to the Tindong Palace, close to the Legation, and which is now being prepared for his reception. It is evident his stay there is not to be of short duration.

The Emperor issued on the 17th February a special decree commuting the death penalty pronounced last year against Kung Chao-yü, ex-Civil Commandant of Port Arthur, Huang Shih-lin, one of the ex-Military Commandants of the same place, ex-General Yeh Chih-chao, of Yashan notoriety, and Chiang Hsi-yi, ex-Commandant at Yingkow (Newchwang), to that of imprisonment for life in the prisons of the Board of Punishments at Peking. The next step will naturally be a complete reprieve sooner or later, in consideration of a large sum of money subscribed by these malefactors towards railways or the military exchequer.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A native paper states that the Emperor requested the Tsungli Yamen and the Ministry of War to decide whether the Hanlin Reform Association should continue or not, and that the reply of these two Boards was decidedly favourable to the organisation. It had also been decided to permit Peking officials from the 9th to the 5th ranks to take a regular course of study in foreign languages in a school to be controlled by the Reform Association. As to the above, we have been assured on reliable authority that the Emperor was induced to take this step on account of a number of secret memorials from numerous officials of high standing in Peking and the provinces; in regard to the school of languages we have no reliable information.—*C. N. Daily News*.

On the afternoon of the 9th February a serious fire occurred at Bangkok. It is said that the cause of the outbreak was a Chinese firecracker which got upon an attap roof. Starting in the compound of the newly erected wood houses on the lower side of Bush Lane, says the *Bangkok Times*, the flames quickly consumed the whole of these wooden structures and several bamboo houses close to, and part of the row of brick houses between the German Club and the roadway. In fact, it was only by the strenuous exertions of a number of Europeans, led by Mr. French (H.B.M. Consul), that the German Club was saved. Almost simultaneously with the original outbreak flames appeared in a large Chinese saw-yard on the bank of Klong Kutmai, and soon raged fiercely in close proximity to the United Club, the bowling alley of which was only a few feet therefrom. The fire was eventually checked at the premises of the Singapore Aerated Water Company, after three or four houses had disappeared. The United Club and the Tramway Station had a narrow escape.

THE DUTY OF THE WHITE TO THE COLOURED RACES.

We publish to-day a rather remarkable paper on the relations of the white to the coloured races and the duty of the former to keep the latter down, or, at all events, not to assist them to rise. We differ from the writer in many of his premises and in all his main conclusions. He speaks of the advance in physical and intellectual civilization having outstripped the advance in moral civilization. A dictionary definition of the meaning of civilization is given, but he appears also to use the word partly in the sense of evolution. And in that sense it is doubtful whether the advance made by the human race physically or intellectually within historic times is in any way appreciable. Accepting the doctrine of evolution we are bound to believe that there has been some advance, but thousands of years are required to effect radical changes in racial characteristics, and the book of history is but a little page as compared with the great book of nature. The accumulation and diffusion of knowledge do not necessarily imply a raising of the intellectual standard, but only that the stock of knowledge is augmented and the number of individuals who approach the standard of intellectuality increased. The whole race of modern poets laureate are but pigmies in intellectual grandeur as compared with the writer of the book of Job, and, taking a shorter interval for purposes of comparison, the last two hundred years have failed to produce a second Shakespeare or Milton; while if we turn to philosophy and science we find no modern who has displayed a more sagacious or penetrating mind than Aristotle. The difference between now and then is that whereas in ancient times knowledge and learning were the property of the few they are now, amongst the civilized races, generally diffused, and that the present age enjoys the use of the accumulated wisdom and discoveries of previous ages. The race lives on a higher plane of comfort, but the individual man remains in intellectual force much the same as he was at the dawn of history. So also with our physical advancement: we diminish the death rate by keeping the weakly alive, but who will say that the strongest man of the present day is stronger than the strongest man of two thousand years ago? The same may be said of the department of morals; the rule of justice is now more closely observed by nations than formerly, but individual types of moral beauty and grandeur are to be found in olden days of as high a standard as any yielded by modern times. But if the advance of the race in morals has not been greater than the physical and intellectual advance it has certainly not been less. The writer of "Occupy till I come" draws an unfavourable conclusion as to the moral tone of modern society from the newspaper reports of murders and divorces and the style of drawing room conversation. The conclusion, we maintain, is not a sound one. It is beyond the power of man to divest himself of his animal nature and as long as the race endures animal coarseness and crime will characterise it. Indeed the too great forcing of the intellect may in itself tend to the increase of insanity, and insanity in its various degrees is responsible for most of the crime that exists. As to the grossness of conversation to which our author refers, we would commend to his attention the following passage from Ruskin:—"There is one strange but quite essential character in us, ever since the Conquest, if not earlier:—a delight in the forms of

"burlesque which are connected in some degree with the foulness in evil. I think the most perfect type of a true English mind in its best possible temper is that of Chaucer; and you will find that, while it is for the most part full of thoughts of beauty, pure and wild, like that of an April morning, there are even in the midst of this sometimes momentarily jesting passages which stoop to play with evil;—while the power of listening to and enjoying the jesting of entirely gross persons, whatever the feeling may be which permits it, afterwards degenerates into forms of humour which render some of quite the greatest, wisest, and most moral of English writers now almost useless for our youth. And yet you will find that whenever Englishmen are wholly without this instinct, their genius is comparatively weak and restricted." The passage quoted will commend itself for the justness of its critical insight, and, if we accept it, it shows how unsafe it would be to follow the writer of "Occupy till I come" in his condemnation of the moral tone of modern society simply because its conversation sometimes turns to jesting on subjects of coarseness.

All this, however, is of merely academic interest. The practical point to which our author's arguments lead is that while the pursuit of morality is at present the greatest need of the white races we should not assist the black or yellow races in the same pursuit, nor yet in the pursuit of physical or intellectual civilization, lest they should outstrip us and take possession of our heritage. Hence both missionaries and mercenaries are to be condemned for the services they render to those races, and to the Chinese in particular. Is this so? Does our interest lie in the shutting up or the opening up of China? The opening up is advocated for commercial and selfish reasons mainly, but it is impossible to make any progress in it without at the same time incidentally contributing to the intellectual advancement of the inhabitants of the country. Philosophical argument, even if sound, would no more avail to stop Western commerce in its search for new fields to exploit in the Far East than a piece of thread to stop a wild elephant. For the present there is money to be made in the Far East and Western traders and manufacturers will come to make it without thinking very much of what the effect may be a thousand years hence. If they did think about it, however, the majority, we fancy, would not arrive at the same conclusion as the writer of "Occupy till I come," but rather at the opposite conclusion. More trade can be done with civilized than uncivilized races, so that from a commercial point of view the civilization of China is to be advocated. Moreover, as in our national life we deem it necessary to try to cut out the canker of pauperism and vice and to raise the lower classes to a higher plane of social existence, as much from prudential as from philanthropic considerations, so in international life it may be deemed necessary to try to raise to a higher plane the nations that are sunk in complete or semi-barbarism, for the existence of barbarism is a standing menace to the security of our civilization. We cannot if we would erect a wall of separation between ourselves and the barbarous races, and hence we must try to eliminate their barbarism. As to missionary effort, while most of it may be lamented as labour wasted, we fail to see how any Christian can condemn it in face of the direct command of the founder of the religion to preach the gospel to all people;

while as to the mercenaries, as the writer of the paper under notice calls them, we are utterly unable to find any ground for his condemnation. The members of the Foreign Customs Service in China are mercenaries, and very good work they are doing; but even if it were admitted that the theoretical result of their work was to strengthen China at the expense of the civilized powers it could not but be deemed quixotic if they were to throw up their appointments for such a shadowy reason. The same considerations apply in other departments. If China wishes to engage engineers to make her railways or to open her mines, lawyers to establish a rational system of jurisprudence in the country, or doctors to introduce the healing art, no man need feel himself demeaned by hiring out his services to her or fear that he is committing "immoral acts." Such an idea—we say it with all respect to the talented writer of the paper—appears to us absurd, as absurd as it would be to accuse a doctor of demeaning himself because he attended a person of lower social standing than himself or a lawyer because he gave his professional services to the unlearned. Sociological studies are no doubt very interesting and in many respects valuable, but sociology is as yet a young science and it is only by violence that it can be made to furnish arguments applicable to the great problem of the relations of the West with the East, of the civilized with the uncivilized.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA AND OPIUM SMOKING.

That the Japanese have a talent for administration unique among Asiatics there can be no doubt. The fact is abundantly proved by the wonderful manner in which they have, since the Revolution of 1867, when the Shogunate was overturned, adopted Western systems and improvements, and in the brief period of thirty years become one of the great Powers of Asia. Japan is now without doubt admirably governed, and law and order are enforced throughout the MIKADO'S dominions in a way and with an impartiality that might well be emulated in some Western countries notwithstanding such occasional glaring instances of miscarriage of justice as the decision of the Hiroshima Court in Viscount MIURA'S case. Hitherto, however, Japanese administrators have had a rather easy field for their operations, being almost limited to their own islands. It is true that they have had a little outside experience in the Loochoo Islands, now the Okinawa ken, and have succeeded in imposing their institutions without much difficulty on those somewhat apathetic islanders. In Korea they also made an attempt, but with only limited powers, and yet more limited success, to administer the country. In a district of Manchuria, however, they set up a provincial government during their occupation of the country, and were far more successful, their rule being apparently more acceptable to the natives than that of the Chinese. These essays at ruling alien races, however (we except the Loochooans), have all been temporary and made under the various difficulties and drawbacks incidental to a precarious tenure of power. Hence they afford no very safe criterion of the amount of success likely to attend the establishment of Japanese institutions in a foreign country over a conquered people.

Such an opportunity is now given by the annexation of the island of Formosa to the Island Empire. Peopled almost entirely by Chinese, who are estimated to number two

and a-half millions, for the aborigines are probably not a hundred thousand all told, the Japanese will have their work cut out of bringing these people into obedience to laws entirely different from those under which they have hitherto lived, and to break them of the peculiar habits and vices they have made their own. The administration of justice in China has always been more or less of a mockery. The longest purse almost invariably wins, and bribery and corruption have been rampant in Formosa as on the mainland. Will Japanese judges and officials prove incorruptible or will they succumb to the corrupting influences surrounding them? On the answer to this question depends, in large measure, their chances of success. The Japanese Government mean well and they intend to do well. They have the requisite determination, and provided only their officials can remain proof against the deteriorating effects of life among the Chinese, it is tolerably certain that they will accomplish a great deal in the direction of material progress and something towards the moral development of the people. Liberal votes for public works are to be made, including twenty million yen for railway construction, six millions towards the making of roads, and four millions for the construction of the harbour of Kelung. This expenditure will give employment to a large number of persons, and when completed will open up a great portion of the island, admitting of more extensive production, and stimulating the opening up of the mineral resources. The coal mines will be properly and scientifically worked, the petroleum wells tested, the sulphur deposits opened up, and the gold mines exploited before long. The camphor forests will also no doubt be placed under supervision and the wasteful methods of the Chinese abolished, new plantations being made and carefully preserved. The Japanese will also introduce new industries and, we trust, give inducements to foreign traders to establish themselves in the ports and cities. The ports and places hitherto opened by China to foreign trade have been named by Japan as open to foreign nations having treaties with her, but presumably the whole island will be opened to foreign residence when the revised treaties come into force.

The greatest difficulty that will confront the Japanese Authorities when the work of pacification is complete will be, not the reclamation or even education of the Chinese, but the opium smoking habit prevalent among them. This difficulty we foresaw at the time the cession of Formosa was first mooted. The drug is excluded by Japan, except for medical purposes, and now Formosa has become a portion of the Japanese empire they have to decide upon one of two evils, namely, whether to make an exception in favour of the new dependency or to enforce the law and exclude the drug from that island the same as is done in Japan. At first the Japanese Authorities were, a Yokohama contemporary tells us, inclined to take the latter course *malgré* all consequences; but further experience has convinced them of the present impracticability of that policy. The number of Chinese in Formosa who use the drug is very large. It is not only used as a luxury by the rich; it is generally regarded by all classes as a prophylactic against the malaria so common in the island; and it would be extremely difficult to wean them from the habit. Moreover, it would not be an easy matter to prevent its being smuggled into the island, which possesses such a long coast line just opposite to China, and from whence junks freighted with it

could so readily land a small cargo. Recognising these difficulties, and being aware that the total prohibition of the drug would serve to keep alive discontent and on a favourable moment incite to open insurrection, the Japanese Government have decided on a compromise. Opium is to be admitted to Formosa for medical purposes only, and only those pronounced by medical experts to be incurably wedded to the habit will be allowed to smoke the drug, and that under a special licence. The vendors of the drug will also have to be licensed. Severe punishments will no doubt be inflicted on those who attempt to commence the habit, and also on any Chinese attempting to induce Japanese to smoke. Even these restrictions will in all probability be strongly resented by the Chinese. Unless some stringent steps be taken it is quite possible that the conquered race may teach the conquerors a habit that may spread throughout the Empire. The working of this novel experiment—an attempt to confine a habit to the existing generation—will be watched with great interest.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE AND COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES IN YUNNAN.

By the Convention between England and France of the 15th January last "the two Governments agree that all commercial "and other privileges and advantages conceded in the two Chinese provinces of "Yunnan and Szechuen either to Great "Britain or France, in virtue of their "respective Conventions with China of 1st "March, 1894, and 20th June, 1895, and "all privileges and advantages of any nature "which may in the future be conceded in "these two Chinese provinces, either to "Great Britain or France, shall, as far as "rests with them, be extended and rendered "common to both Powers and to their "nationals and dependents, and they engage "to use their influence and good offices with "the Chinese Government for this purpose." In the British Convention of 1st March, 1894, there are no privileges conferred that can be termed exclusive. The duties leviable on the frontier trade between Burmah and China are the same as those agreed upon in 1887 for the trade between Tonkin and China, and the other regulations are simply such as the nature of the trade routes requires. The French Convention of 1895, however, contains the following provision:—"It is understood that China, for the exploitation of its "mines in the provinces of Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung, will address itself, in "the first instance, to French commerce and "engineers, the exploitation remaining "otherwise subject to the rules and the "edicts by the Imperial Government which "affect national industry. It is understood "that railways already in existence or projected in Annam can, after mutual agreement, and under conditions to be defined, "be prolonged on Chinese territory." This clause, in so far as it confers exclusive privileges, was contrary to the most favoured nation clause of China's treaties with other Powers, and as against them was therefore invalid. If it was open to France to obtain exclusive privileges in defiance of the most favoured nation clause it would have been equally open to other Powers, and in a scramble of that kind England would probably have obtained as much as her competitors. But such a policy would be fatal to true progress in China and would introduce abuses and difficulties of all kinds. It is right that China should be left free to go to the market that suits her best whether

for mining engineers and material, railways, or anything else. France has now apparently recognised the inadvisability of one nation seeking exclusive privileges and rights at all events she has agreed that in the province of Yunnan she will seek no privileges or advantages that are not equally open to Great Britain. Although this may not involve any material sacrifice on her part it is nevertheless indicative of a spirit of friendliness and courtesy and as such is acceptable. It will be noted, however, that while the French Convention with China of 1895 purports to give to France special rights with reference to the exploitation of the mines of Yunnan, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung, France agrees to share her rights with England only in so far as regards the province of Yunnan. The provinces of Kwangsi and Kwangtung remain subject to the clause above quoted in the Franco-Chinese Convention, in so far as that clause may have any validity; but, as already mentioned, the clause is opposed to the spirit and the letter of the most favoured nation clause, and therefore could not be recognised by other Powers. The clause is, however, too vague in its character to have any real value, even if its legal validity were admitted. China would fulfil her obligations under it by simply inviting tenders from France, without being in any way bound to accept such tenders.

PLAGUE AND QUARANTINE.

The colony has once more been declared affected with bubonic plague. Quarantine, which has for some time past been in force at Manila, has now been established also at Singapore, and other places with which we have trade connections will no doubt follow the lead set by the latter. The action of the Straits Government is altogether unreasonable and lacking in common sense, for their experience in 1894 amply demonstrated that quarantine was unnecessary and that medical inspection afforded an ample guarantee of safety. The step now taken will inflict serious loss on this colony and on the various lines of steamships connecting with it. Some idea of the extent of the injury may be gathered from the following passage in the Harbour Master's report for 1894:—"The port was proclaimed infected with bubonic plague "on 10th May, and the shipping returns "for that quarter showed a decrease in "arrivals of 51 European vessels and 251 "junks. It was not, however, until later "that the full effect on shipping was made "apparent, and the September quarter "showed an additional falling off of 375 "European vessels and 1,824 junks. During "this quarter both influences [the plague "and the war] were at work, and, until the "12th September, our shipping trade remained under a ban. With the raising "of the 'quarantine blockade,' however, "things began to improve, and at the end "of December we had reduced our deficit "in arrivals for the year to 306 European "vessels and 1,336 junks." We now know that the war had no prejudicial effect on the shipping trade of Hongkong, but, on the contrary, tended, if anything, rather in its favour. The whole of the loss mentioned by the Harbour Master must therefore be put down to the plague.

The present year differs from 1894 inasmuch as while we then had a serious epidemic in the colony, which quite apart from questions of quarantine injured trade, this year we have no epidemic, but only sporadic cases of plague, and injury is to be feared

only from the "quarantine blockade." The junk trade is not affected by that and will therefore show no diminution from that cause, but the effect on foreign shipping will, it is to be feared, prove as serious as if the disease were really raging in virulent epidemic form. It is not the plague but the quarantine that ships fear and to them it makes little or no practical difference whether the circumstances justify the imposition of quarantine or not. We may therefore look for a sensible diminution in the tonnage entering the harbour and a consequent falling off in the various branches of business in any way dependent upon shipping.

If it were not for the consequences to trade the occurrence of sporadic cases of plague in the colony, so long as adequate precautions are taken against the spread of the disease, would not be a matter of much more serious consequence than a few cases of measles or smallpox. Under the circumstances, however, very energetic measures to stamp out the disease and to prevent the introduction of any cases from the adjoining mainland are called for. Measures have been taken all along for the segregation of the inhabitants of houses where cases of plague have occurred, the limewashing of houses has been made compulsory, and at its meeting on Thursday the Sanitary Board ordered a house to house inspection of the Central and Western districts. The by-law under which the resolution was passed is No. 22 of the by-laws made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, and it provides that "In any neighbourhood affected by such diseases and within such limits as shall from time to time be defined by the Sanitary Board, the officers of the said Board duly authorised in writing may make a house to house visitation for the purpose of inspecting the sanitary condition of any premises so visited and of all and every part thereof, and of ascertaining whether there are any persons in or upon the said premises attacked or affected by the said diseases or who have died thereof. If the premises visited or any part thereof shall be found in a dirty or insanitary condition in the opinion of the officer making such visitation, he may forthwith take steps to have the same thoroughly cleansed and disinfected by the staff of the said Board or by contractors or others specially appointed for that purpose," etc. The house to house visitation is an unpopular measure and can hardly fail to be attended with more or less annoyance and possibly in some cases with substantial hardship. It is, however, a necessary measure under the circumstances, and we must trust to the discretion of the officers engaged in the work to make the annoyance as small as possible. If the powers possessed by the Sanitary Board and its officers are energetically employed we may reasonably hope in a very short time that the colony will once more be able to issue absolutely clean bills of health.

THE SALE OF BUILDING MATERIAL FROM THE TAIPINGSHAN PLAGUE DISTRICT.

Error dies hard. The *China Mail* of Saturday evening once more refers to the efforts made to save the Taipingshan area from destruction and says that "the gain to the colony which would have accrued had the condemned district been properly and promptly dealt with at the time, but for the frantic efforts of the Property Cabal, no doubt can now be raised." The sentence is as

mistaken in fact as it is faulty in construction. In the first place there was no "Property Cabal" in the case at all, and in the second place, there is no reason to suppose that had the district been burnt there would have been one case of plague the less in the colony. So far as property owners were concerned, their personal and pecuniary interests lay in the total destruction of all the houses. To those who owned property in the area the resumption by the Crown gave them a return for their holdings that they could not have obtained in the open market, and property owners outside the area benefited by the demand for house accommodation on the part of those who had been turned out of Taipingshan. The agitation for the partial improvement of the condemned area instead of its total demolition and reconstruction rested therefore on an entirely unselfish ground, namely, the saving that would thereby have resulted to the public purse, a matter which affects the general population much more than the landlords, for it is on the tenants that the burden of the rates falls. The agitation failed, however, total demolition being decided upon, but the Government, seeing no advantage to be gained by burning, elected to sell the material of which the houses were composed. What amount is expected to be realised by the sale we do not know, but it cannot be very considerable. The saving of the whole area would have been a matter of seven or eight lakhs of dollars; the sale of the material is one of a few thousands only, and it is open to question whether it might not be advisable to yield to ignorant prejudice so far as to refrain from the sale of the portion still remaining and dispose of it otherwise, burning the woodwork and dumping the bricks somewhere under water. It would not make one particle of difference so far as the plague is concerned, but it would be some advantage to allay apprehension. In another column it will be seen that the material composing thirteen houses in Tank Lane is advertised for sale on Friday next. At the present time, when a few sporadic cases of plague are occurring and the colony has been declared infected, the sale of this material might create an unfavourable impression and cause needless alarm, and as the pecuniary side of the question is now really not worth consideration it might be advisable to cancel the auction.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR FEES.

The question of directors' fees is at present exciting some interest in the colony. When the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank twelve months ago increased the amount payable to the gentlemen constituting the Board not a word of dissent was uttered at the meeting at which the decision was arrived at, but some outcry was raised afterwards, and the same thing has occurred in connection with the increase in the fees of the directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. decided upon the other day. It would be more satisfactory if the dissentients would attend the meetings at which such questions are raised, argue out the point, and endeavour to give effect to their views, instead of writing anonymous letters to the press afterwards. It would also be more satisfactory, when an increase of fees is in contemplation, if due and formal notice were given of the resolution intended to be proposed, so that shareholders might have an opportunity of considering the matter beforehand. Such matters ought not to be carried by a surprise vote question, and, if the truth were known, it is probably

more the manner in which the increase is given than the actual increase itself that excites hostility. Directors are a necessity, they have duties to perform, they incur legal responsibilities, and it is only reasonable that they should be fairly remunerated. Each case should be judged on its own merits. The dollar is now worth only half of what it used to be in sterling, and where the business of a Company has largely increased and the profits can afford it it seems not unreasonable that the directors should be willing to take something in the way of exchange compensation, like Government officials, though the increase may not be called by that name. In the case of Consulting Committees the circumstances are rather different from those of Companies managed by a Board of Directors. The functions of a Consulting Committee are more or less nominal and the legal responsibility rests upon the General Managers. Members of Consulting Committees cannot, therefore, expect to be treated on quite the same footing as directors. For our own part, however, we would be glad to see the principle of payment by results introduced into public companies all round. Let the fixed fees be low, just sufficient to give some tangible remuneration for the time and trouble expended, and a percentage of the profits be given when the dividend exceeds a certain amount. When shareholders have to go without dividends or with only very small ones it is natural that they should look with an unfriendly eye on the figures in the accounts representing the cost of management, but when a Company is paying dividends at the rate of twenty-four per cent. it seems a little ungracious to carp at the more liberal remuneration of directors. It is not merely the directors' time that has to be paid for, but their business skill and judgment.

QUARANTINE IMPOSED AT SINGAPORE.

Telegraphic information was received by the Government on the evening of the 27th Feb. that the Singapore Government has declared Hongkong to be infected owing to bubonic plague, and that quarantine regulations are in force at Singapore identically the same as published in the *Official Gazette* of 19th May, 1894.

We understand that the P. & O. Company have received a telegram from their Singapore agency, in reply to an inquiry with reference to the *Ravenna*, which left on Thursday, to the effect that ships may pass through Singapore without quarantine if there are no Chinese on board, but if there are Chinese the regulations will be enforced. At Colombo the regulations are the same as before and no Chinese will be allowed to land there.

The following is the quarantine notice issued at Singapore in 1894:—"Information having been received that a contagious disease, namely, bubonic plague, has broken out at Hongkong, it is hereby declared by the Governor that the port of Hongkong is infected. Under the regulations made by the Governor in Council under 'The Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance, 1886,' all vessels arriving from Hongkong will be put in quarantine and there detained for nine days from the date of departure from Hongkong, or from the date of the last case of the said disease on board, or until released by the Health Officer."

Snow fell at Foochow on the morning of the 15th February, from six to eight o'clock, but as it was followed by rain and subsequently by a bright sun all traces of it soon vanished excepting on the hill tops. There has been snow but once in Foochow during the last forty years and that was in January, 1893.—*Echo*.

SUPREME COURT.

26th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

A FORECLOSURE ORDER.

The Canton Insurance Company, Limited, petitioned for a foreclosure order against Mr. G. S. Coxon, who has left the colony.

Hon. H. E. Pollock appeared for the petitioning Company and said that on the 24th August, 1892, Mr. Coxon borrowed three sums of money. The first sum was \$20,000 from the Company, to whom he gave a mortgage. The second sum was \$10,000, which he borrowed from another party and gave a mortgage which was subject to the first one, and the second sum was \$40,000, for which a mortgage was given, subject to the first and second. The defendant failed to pay the first mentioned sum at the proper time, and an endeavour was made to sell the property, but the highest offer did not reach the reserve figure, \$20,000. Defendant did not appear in the action, and the usual decree of foreclosure against his property was applied for.

His Lordship granted the order.

27th February.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HON. W. M. GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

ADJOURNED PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF EDWARD FRANK BIRCHAL.

Edward Frank Birchall, formerly trading in Hongkong as Villa, Lopez & Co., debtor, again attended for his public examination, which was adjourned from 6th February.

Mr. J. W. Norton Kyshe sat as Registrar for the first time, and Mr. A. Seth was present as Official Receiver.

Mr. Grist—I appear for the debtor, but of course I cannot take any part in the examination under the section.

His Lordship (to the bankrupt)—Since the last meeting I have tried to ascertain how matters stood, and as far as I can understand they stand somewhat to this effect. That you owe debts to the amount of some \$16,215.47, and that the assets which you hope to realize are—stock in trade, \$700; book debts, \$1,893.63; and household furniture, \$900. Now that is what you hope to get in. What has actually been realised is \$1,500 for stock in trade and furniture, and, up to the present, \$220.98 for book debts, making \$1,720.98 assets, as against \$16,000 odd which you owe. I observe in the statement of affairs you put down one item as an asset, and on which you expect to realise, goods to the amount of \$100 lying in Mr. Lammert's godown. The Official Receiver informs me that Mr. Lammert has claims against that, that he has advanced money from time to time against these goods, and that the advances more than cover the cost of the goods.

Bankrupt—The goods were valued at \$5,000 and when that statement was made he had not realised them all. He has still some goods unsold.

His Lordship—How came you to give him \$5,000 worth of goods?

Bankrupt—They were goods that were in the hands of the bank and they wished them to be realised. The money was paid over to the bank and not to me.

His Lordship—As regards the possibility of claiming the surplus for the benefit of the creditors, what can you state as their value? Mr. Lammert says they will not realise \$100.

Bankrupt said the amount was estimated as the balance of the goods, which he thought was the minimum amount. After the actual sale he could not exactly say whether there would be any balance or not.

His Lordship—With regard to the book debts, what prospect is there of getting them in? \$220 has been collected out of \$1,893, which leaves a balance of \$1,670. What do you estimate as likely to be realised from applications for the remainder?

Bankrupt—I still hope that the majority of the items will be realised by the Official Receiver.

His Lordship—You honestly think they will be realised?

Bankrupt—I think so.

His Lordship—I was under a little misapprehension as to your antecedents on the occasion of your last examination. I think I understood that you had gone to Spain and then had come out here on this trading tour without previous experience of the East. What was the first firm you were in in Manila?

Bankrupt—Since I originally came to the East I have been engaged by Messrs. Macleod, Pickford & Co., of Manila.

His Lordship—What position did you hold there?

Bankrupt—I was cashier and bookkeeper for five years.

His Lordship—When did you leave that firm?

Bankrupt—In 1877. I left to join Messrs. Smith, Bell & Co.

His Lordship—What was your position in that firm?

Bankrupt—I joined them as bookkeeper and later on was manager of the shipping department. I was with them for about five years and then I joined Messrs. Robinson and Segarda, of Manila.

His Lordship—That did not turn out very well, did it?

Bankrupt—No.

His Lordship—How long were you engaged in that business?

Bankrupt—From 1882 till 1884.

His Lordship—Then what happened?

Bankrupt—The business was a failure; the capital was lost and the business was liquidated.

His Lordship—What was your next position?

Bankrupt, in answer, said he went to Europe and managed a branch in Barcelona for Messrs. Mackintosh & Co. In 1893 he came to the East for Messrs. Villa, Lopez & Co.

His Lordship—At your last examination you stated the causes of your failure to be heavy expenses in starting the business here, and, secondly, that the Barcelona firm repudiated their connection with you by issuing an express to that effect. You showed me on that occasion also a letter which you said proved that they had authorised you to open a branch for them in the Philippine Islands.

Bankrupt—Yes, my Lord.

His Lordship—Then I think I remarked to you that that did not authorise you to open a branch in Hongkong. Then you told me there was a verbal agreement between you to open a branch here. Then I think you said you wrote to them saying that you had opened a branch here and that they replied approving of it. Now have you a copy of their reply to that letter?

Bankrupt (handing in a letter)—I would like you to read that first.

His Lordship said this letter, which was dated 25th October, 1893, stated that the firm were desirous of facilitating trade in their goods in Hongkong. Their connection with the bankrupt, however, added his Lordship, did not really show that they were partners.

His Lordship—I want to know whether you can substantiate by any letter the statement which you made on the last occasion that they were partners.

Bankrupt—I put in accounts then showing that they were.

Bankrupt then handed in another letter which he wrote to Villa, Lopez & Co. advising them that he had started a branch in Hongkong. This contained a clause to the effect that their share in the Hongkong business would be 40 per cent.

His Lordship—That, you say, goes to show there was a partnership between you.

Bankrupt—Yes.

Bankrupt handed in another letter from the Barcelona firm stating that the Hongkong firm had their best wishes for a prosperous mercantile career. The tone of this letter, said his Lordship, did not seem as though they were partners in the Hongkong firm.

His Lordship—You have nothing stronger than that letter to show that they were partners except the accounts which you have put in. I cannot decide any way whether there was a partnership between you and this firm, because

they are not represented here. The result is that I must take it for what it is worth. I do not think I need continue the examination any longer. But how there should have been such a very heavy loss in such a short time I cannot say. I shall adjourn the further hearing of this matter till this day week.

Mr. Grist—I suppose your Lordship took notes of the Barcelona firm's letters which they wrote to the Spanish line of steamers and in which they referred to their "firm in Hongkong."

His Lordship—Yes.

The examination was then adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on the afternoon of the 27th Feb. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. MacCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

HOUSE TO HOUSE VISITATION.

The PRESIDENT—In pursuance of the notice I have given I beg to move—"That the Sanitary Board, under the provisions of by-law No. 22, made under Ordinance 15 of 1894, authorise the Medical Officer of Health and his staff to make a house to house visitation within that portion of the city of Victoria bounded on the north by the Praya, on the south by the Caine and Bonham Roads, on the east by Wyndham Street, and on the West by the western boundaries of Marine Lot No. 184 and Inland Lot No. 833, for the purposes stated in the by-law referred to."

Mr. EDE seconded.

Carried.

POLLUTED WELLS.

Six samples of water taken from wells in Jervois Street were reported by the Government Analyst to be so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health. The wells were ordered to be closed.

UNFINISHED YARDS.

On 30th January an application was received from Messrs. Palmer and Turner for a certificate for fifty houses which had been erected on Kowloon Inland Lots 542 to 545, but as the yards were not finished off with a two inch cement concrete or other material as provided by the by-law, the Sanitary Surveyor refused to grant a certificate. Messrs. Palmer and Turner replied that "unless there was some other reason for not granting the certificate we shall be obliged by your sending it at once." They added that the houses were designed under specific instructions for the Hongkong Regiment as married quarters for the privates, and concluded, "If Colonel Faithfull allows the yards to be used for a wrongful purpose it will be time enough then, we think, for the Sanitary Board to interfere, and he will then have to take the responsibility of doing so." In a minute the Secretary pointed out that as slops were certain to be thrown into the yards the law must be complied with. He added that Messrs. Palmer and Turner's letter was highly objectionable and bordered on being impertinent. The members' minutes were in favour of the yards being properly concreted before a certificate was granted.

The SECRETARY read a letter which the Sanitary Surveyor had received from Lieut.-Colonel Faithfull, stating that the yards would not be used for washing purposes.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that, looking at the accommodation provided for washing at the houses, there could be no doubt that slops would be thrown to a very large extent into the yards, and he moved that the Board refuse to grant the certificate until the yards were cemented.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH seconded.

Carried.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 15th February the death rate was 30.8 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 31 at the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended February 22nd the

death rate was 30.6 per 1,000 per annum as against 18.9 for the corresponding period last year.

IMPURE WATER AND TYPHOID FEVER.

Messrs. Watkins and Co. wrote asking the Board to review a notice ordering a well at 66, Queen's Road Central to be closed. They pointed out that the well had not been used for drinking purposes since July, 1894, that the water was not required for dietetic purposes as no one lived on the premises, that a considerable quantity of water was constantly required for washing bottles and other utensils in daily use in their business, and that great inconvenience and hardship would follow if the well were closed during the water famine. They proposed that the well be covered and a lock attached, the key of which could be kept by the Board on condition that the applicants could use the water for washing purposes during water famine.

The PRESIDENT said the result of the analysis was sufficient to condemn any water for dietetic purposes. As regards its use for washing bottles members were acquainted with many cases of typhoid fever, and epidemics had been found to be due to milk pans being washed with water of this description. He therefore moved that the applicants be informed that the notice to close must be complied with.

The ACTING CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE seconded.

Carried.

LIMEWASHING OF PREMISES.

The PRESIDENT—Referring to the decision of the Board as to the limewashing of premises I have to report for the information of members that about 1,800 houses have been completed and 200 are now in progress.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.]

TAIPEHFU, 18th February.

The following proclamations and orders issued by the rebel leader are evidence that there was at least an attempt at organization among the rebels during the late outbreak. However, the reader must not accept too literally the profuse promises made by the rebel leader, for past experience has shown us that what they promise to do is usually just what their intention is not to do, and all their declarations of protection were inserted that they might invite the combined support of all Chinese in Formosa. Being well aware that if hostilities were conducted against the foreigners many of the better class of Chinese would not be inclined to publicly aid, we find the clause regarding foreigners. Again, the protection of Chinese women and children is declared, that the male element might be more easily induced to join the rebellion.

Translation of proclamations:—

"I, Ko, future Governor of Formosa, charged with the defence of the island, and wearing the honourable blue coat, Commander-in-Chief of patriotical army of Taipei, Teckcham (Hsin-chu), and Maoli, give to the public the following information:—

"For several months Formosa has been occupied by the barbarian Japanese, and the people are suffering from their violence and brutality; therefore all men with a vestige of blood in their veins must come together and help to recover our own country. I, Commander-in-Chief, have received orders from the great General Liu (Liu Yung-fu) and swear before the war god to exterminate all Japanese barbarians by leading our strong army in a proper manner. Our people will on receiving only a word gather their friends from everywhere and rush to the front, disputing only who should lead in being the first to attack.

"We have chosen as chief of right column of troops Chi-de-ong (Jio-tok-wo), military honours of sixth rank, who is faithful to our cause, and bring very smart and brave in fighting we can depend upon him. I wish all to take note of this and after the assembling of troops under his banner you are to march and kill all the Japanese, thus aiding in a great deed and receiving in return a high reward. You should spread the information, fixing clearly the day of attack, and register the names of all who will

agree to take part. All this should be conducted with a careful regard for every detail. Nothing of importance should be neglected.

"I herewith give the seal of the chief of the right column of troops—Chi-de-ong (Jio-tok-wo)—with the sixth rank of military honour, and now chief of the right column in army of Kakok (Ga-kia-gun).

"Given on the 14th day of the 11th month in 21st year of Kwang-Hsu."

"I, Ko, future Governor of Formosa, charged with its defence and wearing the honourable blue coat, Commander-in-Chief of the patriotical army of Taipei, Teckcham, and Maoli, will let know to the people my orders.

"I, Commander-in-Chief, will exterminate all Japanese by order of the great General Liu, with the aid of the patriotical army. This then should be your one object, but if any of the people of the country refuse to join us we should not trouble them, but allow them to continue with their work. We fear some ruffians will in our name threaten and impose upon the good people; therefore all inhabitants of Taipei and of the villages in the vicinity must take notice of the following. To assemble many people together that they may inflict damage upon a village will be considered as a big crime and punished as such, so let all beware and not forget this. However, if there are some chiefs or men who have been guilty before of such robberies and ill treatment and they will come and join us, submitting to all orders and giving proof by some brave act of their desire to become worthy, we will accept such and grant them freedom, as well as allowing them their wives and children. But if after this generous offer they refuse to change their methods and we find them troubling the good people, we will capture and deal severely with them. If in a village, or wherever it may be, such bands are seen assembling, the good people may kill them if necessary, although they should attempt their capture alive that they may be brought before us. Great care should be taken not to kill any who are innocent. We will receive every report of complaint and examine such with impartiality.

"Observe carefully the following rewards for meritorious deeds as well as penalties for wrong doings:—

"1st.—Anyone who will deliver to us a Japanese prisoner who has escaped from the fighting will be rewarded.

"2nd.—Anyone killing a Japanese and bringing to us the head will be rewarded.

"3rd.—Anyone who protects ruffians or tries to aid in their wrongdoing will be decapitated.

"4th.—If any family aid in concealing an escaped Japanese their property will be confiscated and the male members of the family decapitated.

"5th.—Anyone who for personal reasons kills an innocent man will be decapitated.

"6th.—If anyone brings as prisoner a bad character who has threatened damage to the good people he will receive 100 taels as reward.

"7th.—If anyone kills a bad character in the act of making trouble he will after proper investigation receive reward.

"Given on the 16th day of 11th month of 21st year of Kwang-Hsu."

"I, Ko, future Governor of Formosa, charged with its defence, wearing the honourable blue coat, Commander-in-Chief of the patriotical army of Taipei, Teckcham, and Maoli, by order from great General Liu, the chief in charge of defence of Formosa and chief of army and navy of Formosa, give this notification to the people that they may be encouraged by the promise of big rewards for successful captures that they may make. We were at first obliged to give up Taipei and as yet have not retaken the city, but there must be many patriots and braves who will drive out the Japanese and eventually exterminate them all. We therefore by this order have announced a schedule of prices and rewards and have also given certain conditions of attack. This we wish to make known to all patriots and notables everywhere, that they may assemble and make attack and retake Taipei and other cities, exterminating all Japanese.

"We will certainly pay all rewards and people can trust us to fulfil all promises.

"100,000 taels to troops who have taken Taipei.

"20,000 taels to troops who have taken Hobe.

"40,000 taels for the capture of the forts at Kelung.

"30,000 taels to troops who have taken Teckcham.

"5,000 taels to troops who have taken Gilan.

"15,000 taels to troops who have taken Maoli.

"800 taels for the delivery to us of the Prefect of Taipei (Admiral Tanaka.)

"2,000 taels for the delivery to us of the Governor of the Island.

"2,000 taels for the burning of a Japanese war vessel or transport.

"800 taels for the capture of a Japanese provision ship or boat.

"1,500 taels for the capture of a gendarme officer of seven braids or an army or navy general.

"600 taels for the capture of a Japanese officer with five braids (stripes); 500 taels with four braids; 400 taels with three braids; 300 taels with two braids; 200 taels with one braid; 150 taels for private soldier.

"Any party taking prisoner a civil chief of a district or branch office who has under him an officer of three braids will be rewarded, as well as be honoured with the fourth rank of merit. If the officers under this civil chief are less than those bearing three braids the captor will be honoured with the fifth rank of merit.

"Anyone who brings the head of any of the above-mentioned Japanese will be given half the amount stated as reward for delivery alive.

"Anyone killing the Imperial Prince must bring as proof the head and clothing. In case of a general, however, the head and one sleeve bearing the braids will be sufficient.

"Given the 16th day, 11th month, 21st year of Kwang-Hsu."

"I, Ko, Commander-in-Chief of the patriotical army in Taipei, Teckcham, and Maoli, etc., etc., give these severe orders that all may beware and obey.

"I, now taking command of Taipei army, swear to exterminate the barbarous Japanese. At first when organizing our army we made strict laws to keep order and informed all our soldiers.

"In exterminating the Japanese we are first to serve our native country; secondly, to save our good people from the abuse of the Japanese; so everywhere that our armies are passing great care should be taken that the good people are not harmed.

"Nothing belonging to the country people should be carried away, and the women and children must be protected, while all our energies should be devoted in advancing to kill the Japanese, but always observing the rules we now lay before you.

"In clearing the country of the detestable enemy you must show great bravery, which will be rewarded, but any one committing any of the eight offences following will be promptly beheaded:—

"First, for the outraging of women.

"Second, for the appropriating by force other people's property.

"Third, for the delivery to the enemy of our secrets of war.

"Fourth, who retreat from the fighting without orders.

"Fifth, who take credit for themselves of the brave deeds performed by others.

"Sixth, who give out false news to trouble our line or to deceive our friends.

"Seventh, for stealing from each other or killing a comrade without just cause.

"Eighth, when entering a city all soldiers and patriots are at liberty to kill all Japanese without further orders, but they must not sacrifice the rights of their companions in view of their own personal advantage. Upon coming to a Japanese storehouse or merchants' shops, these places must be sealed up that the goods and valuables may be afterwards divided equally among us all.

"Given on the 16th day of 11th month of 21st year of Kwang-Hsu.

"I, Ko, future Governor, etc., etc., etc., give the following order of protection:—

"England, Germany, Russia, France, America, and the Philippines being our friendly nations

and having promised us aid, now I, obeying orders of the great General Liu to exterminate the Japanese, have great fear that our army in the excitement of the fighting will kill some of the people of the friendly nations or missionaries of the same. Therefore I give orders to defend strongly these foreigners.

"I wish all military and merchant people of Taipeh, Teckcham, and Maoli districts to know that our enemy is only the Japanese and we have nothing to do with other nations except to protect their subjects.

"So our people must not cause the foreigners any damage or deceive them under any circumstances. If soldiers or any other people kill these friends—missionaries, consuls, or merchants—injure their property or burn down the churches, the culprits will be decapitated and their property seized. This order is given with a determined spirit, and every man must be aware and obey strictly.

"Given on 16th day, 11th month of 21st year Kwang-Hsu."

In general orders issued for the organization of the force at Gilan and Sanchao I note the troops are divided into two armies, the north and south, with officers as given below:—

NORTH.	SOUTH.
Lim-shing, in command of Civil and Military Administration, stationed west of Gilan.	Ha-bun-ti, in charge of Civil Administration and stores, stationed east of Gilan.

Chiefs of Camps:—Lee-sei, Ling-tai-hok, with an adjutant captain and lieutenant as assistants.	General Chin-an-san, with a staff consisting of two officers (no rank given.) Colonels two (flag officers),
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Three captains, three lieutenants, and two adjutants are mentioned as including the list of officers.	four captains, and two adjutants complete the southern officials' list.
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SAN-CHAO.
General in Chief Lin-lee-sium.
Three Generals and two chiefs of camps—(No rank given.)
Chief Guide—Teung-tung-chiung. This man is the leading beggar of Gilan and knows everything about the city.

TAIPEHFU, 20th February.

Four days ago the *Masatoya-maru*, a steamer transport of about 700 tons burden, arrived off Tamsui late in the afternoon, but owing to her draught, being heavily loaded, she was unable to cross the bar, so the ship's master decided to anchor outside, remain over night, and then proceed to Kelung in the morning.

During the night, a slight wind arose and the ship's cable parted; the vessel drifted shorewards, eventually going aground on the sands. For some unaccountable reason the fires had been allowed to go down, so that when the cable parted it was impossible to raise enough steam to turn the screw. That a ship should be without steam on the northern coast of Formosa, which is so subject to storms, shows such utter ignorance on the part of the captain that one is not surprised to hear that his other anchor was not dropped when the line of the first one parted, which might have saved her even then.

Governor Count Kabayama departs for Japan on the 24th in compliance with the command of the Emperor, who is solicitous for his Excellency's health, H.E. having been confined to his bed several days ago with a slight attack of Tamsui fever. The departure is not due to his having resigned his post as Governor of Formosa owing to ill health, as stated in the Japanese papers and afterwards copied into the foreign journals.

Quite a party accompanies the Governor, several to take the opportunity of a few weeks' vacation in Japan, among them being Admiral Tsunoda, and two of his staff, Dr. Okubo and Captain Takagawa, I.J.N. About twenty prominent Chinese of the north of the island will be shown the sights of Japan and for their convenience quite a host of servants, interpreters, etc., are included in the party.

Owing to the kind invitation of his Excellency I will take this opportunity also of returning to Japan, to enjoy a month's rest and change of climate, for, for the last month, we have had unceasing rain with not a ray of sunlight. Cold, wet, and gloomy days without an exception, while the mosquitos, which bloom all the year around in Formosa, turn my evenings into combats and early drive me to my fortress—the mosquito curtain—the most essential article of equipment for life in Formosa.

TAIPEHFU, 24th February.

The Japanese transport *Masatoya-maru*, that was wrecked near Hobe about a week ago, is daily being driven farther on the sands and will without doubt prove a total loss. This is the fifth ship lost by the Japanese since November.

The arrest of Lapraik, Cass and Co.'s comprador, Si Tong-cook, which occurred several days ago, was a great surprise to the foreign community. The Japanese accuse him of aiding the rebellion with money, but no details regarding the case have been made public. No doubt the authorities consider the proof at hand sufficient to justify them taking the man through the street like a rebel and throwing him into the Japanese prison, but it is the universal opinion among the foreigners that he is not guilty, but is the victim of an unsuccessful blackmailer or the subject of a deliberate plot concocted by some of his Chinese enemies.

The man has been connected with the firm of Lapraik, Cass and Co. for many years and has always been a favourite among the foreigners, who considered him bright and clever, careful, and well posted in business. That such a man, who had everything to lose and nothing to gain, should aid a rebellion in which he could not have other than realized its futility does not seem reasonable, and we trust that his trial will prove him guiltless.

JAMES W. DAVIDSON.

OCCUPY TILL I COME.

"The deep meaning of the language which the West is holding to the East is simply this: 'Occupy till I come.'—Modern writer.

Ethnologists, after many years of indefatigable research and of travail in that legitimate controversy which alone begets truth, are now generally agreed as to the primordial unity of the human race. This granted, we may presume that the original family or tribe separated, without raising the vexed question of the original point of separation. And we may also, without fear of contradiction, make the further presumption that when, at that early time, these ancestors of ours, whose children in their millions now people the earth, set out on their respective journeys, their minds were as little concerned with the possibility, or the results, of a future meeting as with modern party politics or the lady bicyclist. They did not think that a time would come when the faint ripples then extending in ever-widening circles from the spot where man had appeared on the surface of the earth would roll back in mighty waves and dash against each other in the stress and strain of vital conflict. These thoughts were for another people and another time, and with those accustomed to "look before and after" the conviction is ever growing stronger that the hour is now at hand when the question of our fitness for the fight should occupy our attention to the exclusion of all other questions. We do not wish to be deceived. Thrown down or sprung up on this earth (according to the view we hold) we find multitudes of human beings aggregated in more or less developed societies of various kinds and sizes. Whatever the end and object of their existence may be, they are one and all governed by the law of self-preservation—each seeks first to maintain itself, to prolong its own life. Indeed, this state of things shadows forth a truism, for, pushed to its logical conclusion, argument in favour of any hypothesis based on a law of self-destruction is suicidal, in the case of a society as well as in the case of an individual. There is, under the conditions, no alternative; and so strongly do we endorse the law by conformity to which our lives are rendered possible that we put to death the traitor who, in war time or in peace time, endeavours to betray his country, without waiting to see whether his act will really have the prejudicial result we expect it to have. That we shall ultimately act on a more complete law—shall live up to a system of ethics as superior to any now prevalent as these are to those of the wife-eating Fuegian—those who have studied the history of Ethics cannot but believe; but since

* Were the subject of this paper ethical instead of sociological, it would be interesting to dwell on this highest form of our social life and to point out the

conformity to perfect ethics is possible only in a perfect state—from which we are, as yet a long way off—it is our bounden duty to conform as nearly as we can, whilst ever keeping the ideal in view, to the system most adapted to our present condition, the alternative being subjugation by those who do.

The history of mankind is the history of aggression, of compounding and re-compounding of societies by war. The most conspicuous result of this process at the present day is the great supremacy which one portion of the human family has gained and is gaining over the other portions—the extent to which the white races have spread and are spreading at the expense of the yellow and black races, or, to be more exact, the extent to which the white-skinned, fine-haired, orthognathous type has overrun the yellowish and blackish skinned, coarse-haired, mesognathous, and prognathous types. Of the 60,000,000 square miles of land on this earth, about two-thirds are now owned by the first-named type. Many countries formerly owned exclusively by what are known as the lower races are now owned and partially inhabited by the so-called civilized races, but there are no instances on record of any large tracts formerly owned by white races being now owned by the darker races. In the lapse of time the possessions of the first have grown at the expense of the others—here by encroachment or conquest, there by treaty or purchase, but the process has always been in one direction. We have no record of a black or yellow race subduing and ruling a white race. Civilization faces the other way and refuses to allow the best of her children to hew the wood and draw the water of those to whom nature in her wisdom has both assigned these tasks and given a temperament fit to carry them out. Any temporary ascendancy of the lower races we might be able by careful search to discover in the book of history is sure to be found obliterated on the next page: the natural order reasserts itself. The question of questions for us now is: Will this process continue as heretofore, or is there a danger of its being reversed? Have we reasons for believing that, in the world's great melting-pot, we shall prove to be the refined gold and stand the test of the fiery furnace, or are we, too, destined to be absorbed and lost in the greater mass of seething humanity?

Before attempting to answer this question a digression may here fitly be made to recall to mind the objects and methods of sociological enquiry. A fact generally overlooked is that this science is both an inductive and a deductive one, and another fact also left unnoticed by most is that since its foundation vast accumulations of data have been made and classified, and principles deduced therefrom, so that there have already been discovered certain laws of Sociology, which cannot be ignored in any discussion of sociological problems without risk of serious error. We do not refer to the pseudo-arguments of those writers who compare the intellectual traits of one race with the moral traits of another and found on this comparison conclusions as to the relative merits of the two, since unscientific methods of this kind are beneath serious attention. We refer rather to those who are ignorant of or ignore the tabulated facts showing the radical characteristics of national types, and who thus draw erroneous inferences respecting the potentialities of certain races, which a study of these tables would show do not exist. Knowing that from small beginnings some races have attained to power and greatness, they unhesitatingly conclude that it is possible for all other races to do the like, forgetful or ignorant of the fact that it is as

stages by which it can be shown that as in the competition for blood going on amongst the various parts of an individual organism undue egoism or undue altruism (to borrow ethical terms) may prove suicidal by destroying the organism itself of which the too selfish or too unselfish units are parts, so in the social organism the same result may follow imperfect ethics in the individual social units. Thus there would seem to be no escape from the conclusion that a code of conduct which prescribes unqualified altruism (the best no doubt in the time of almost unqualified egoism in which it was promulgated) must be inferior to one in which the claims of self and others are rightly balanced.

great an impossibility, for certain types of societies to change their natures as for the stiff-limbed octogenarian to run a successful race with the supple athlete of twenty. The character of a nation is the character of its component units. And character, bred in the bone, is above all things most difficult to change. We try and fail in individual cases, yet—astounding faith!—we presume that to change the character of a nation composed of hundreds of millions of individuals is an easy matter! Whilst in daily life we recognise in an indistinct way that it often takes as long to get out of a given state as it took to get into it, in national life we presume that disease may be cured forthwith merely by the adoption of some pet scheme,* or the passing of a law, or performance of some plausible feat of political alchemy. There is no such criterion. The work of many centuries cannot be transformed in a few minutes or weeks or months or years. Convalescence is as indispensable in national recovery as it is in individual recovery. And when, as in individual death, dissolution sets in, it is no use trying to keep the lifeless parts together by propping them up in the shape of a body corporate—the materials must re-enter the great furnace and be moulded into another and more appropriate and abiding shape. The nation which fails in the race must begin again at the beginning.

Study of social structures and functions is thus seen to be an all-important pre-requisite to the drawing of legitimate inferences respecting the courses which it is possible or impossible for social aggregates to follow. Without this study, made comparatively easy by the laborious work of many scholars, it is dangerous to make statements respecting the future of any society. One of the many difficulties encountered in sociological investigations, in attempting to reach definite conclusions concerning the things which shall be, is the impossibility of projecting our minds into the distant future in anything more than an imperfect manner. The reason for this is, that between this time and that so many things must occur to modify and alter the course of events that, however sure we might be respecting the validity of our conclusions as to the near future, we cannot but regard conclusions respecting the distant future as likely to be more than mere approximations to the truth. Only of general principles can we allege sufficient virility for them to be of use to us. In the question under consideration we may with confidence make one assertion. Between the white and the yellow races—between the West and the East—there can never be perfect amalgamation. The iron and the clay, the rigid and the plastic, can never coalesce. Some contest there must be. The plastic may absorb the rigid in a certain way, but there can in no case be the kind of blended life we might expect were both formed of the same or similar substance. That this contest, which Sociology shows is one of those things which must come and will come, will not be a military contest, might be inferred from present data, but the interval may yet produce factors, at present invisible, which may render a return on our part to a military life—now gradually giving way before the industrial life, and by and by to be absorbed by it—an unavoidable necessity. Whether such a return would, in view of the change of nature we shall by that time have undergone, be possible in a manner thorough enough to be of any use to us is another question, which, were it here considered, would probably be answered in the negative. But in view

* A good illustration of the time and trouble which might have been saved by some sociological preparation is afforded by the present crusade of European women in China against the foot-binding custom. Whilst we have nothing to say against the efforts which are being made privately to induce the women to let their feet grow in the natural way, yet from the sociological standpoint we cannot but regard as absurd the endeavour to persuade the Emperor to issue an edict prohibiting the custom, since, having been forbidden by the Emperor K'ang Hsi, it was re-introduced only four years afterwards, popular prejudice proving too strong even for imperial command. To suppose that greater success in influencing the public mind of the Chinese to break through the "cake of custom" would attend the issue of an edict instigated by a people they hate and despise is but one more proof both of popular irrationality and of the value of sociological enquiry.

of the fact that amongst the white races, as they continue to advance from predatory savagery to peaceful civilization (a state foreshadowed in the present military industrial constitution of society) the fighting spirit must die out, and that of the other races the yellow at least have not the true military instinct and show no signs of acquiring it—in view of this fact, it is more reasonable to presume that the contest will be not a military one, but an industrial one of the severest kind. In the millennium a contest of this nature will not necessarily be one of the savage scrambles now common in competitions both intra-national and international, but one of civilized rivalry, in which a more perfect ethics than any at present in vogue will render the object to be achieved the securing of due justice by each for both self and others (a reaction from a state of universal altruism, towards which, as a revolt against the pre-Christian state of almost unqualified egoism, we seem at times to be progressing), instead of as at present the very general endeavour to secure for others injustice, as long as this can be done with impunity. The struggle (to use this word for want of a better) will be a rivalry of civilized friends, not a *mêlée* of savage enemies. But there is no short cut to the millennium. As the mother must labour in order to give birth to her child, so to give birth to the Truth the nations must labour in travail in pain. The pain to come in any marriage between the East and the West must be this contest we have indicated, the coming to pass of which must be regarded as sociological predictions of this order as the one most certain to be fulfilled.

To find that which we seek, then, we must look at the different qualities possessed by the two combatants that are most likely to stand each in good stead in the coming conflict. During the different stages of life on this earth men have held various opinions respecting the Universe, but they have always taken care to put themselves in the centre of it. From out of the dark past there have emerged during the centuries many races of men, whose one object hitherto has been to exterminate each other. Yet no nation in the past has held God's warrant, and one by one they have gone the way of all flesh. Of the surviving races, two varieties at least seem destined to meet in deadly conflict in the distant future for the inheritance of the earth. To estimate their relative chances of success we must try to find, first, what qualities will be of most value in the struggle, and, second, in what degree each is possessed of them so as to render it aid in attaining the victory. To this end it is necessary to ask once more that oft-repeated question: "What is civilization?" We turn to the latest edition of the last new dictionary and we find the following explanations:—"Civilization. The action or process of civilizing or of being civilised; (more usually) civilized condition or state; a developed or advanced state of human society." And then to make our conception more complete we look up the word "civilize," and see that it means "to make civil; to bring out of a state of barbarism; to instruct in the arts of life and thus elevate in the scale of humanity; to enlighten, refine, and polish; to polish what is rude or uncouth; to domesticate, tame; to conform to the requirements of civil life, to behave decently." As seen in its historical development these are the various meanings of the word; and summing them up, we may briefly define civilization as a triple strand of physical, intellectual, and moral advance, and the further the advance the higher the degree of civilization. To be wanting in any one of these three component elements is to be, in so far, uncivilized; without this triple proficiency there can be no complete civilization. Let us see in what degree the peoples with whom we are here concerned have progressed towards the ideal state.

Had it not been done so often before, it would here be necessary, for symmetry's sake, to dwell upon the rigid state into which those societies get which conform to one part of the law of evolution and not to the other. Though integration of matter and dissipation of motion, during which both matter and motion undergo a change from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity to a definite, coherent heterogeneity,

constitute the process of evolution, yet failure to retain sufficient motion to render the matter pliable and adaptable during the course of development results in the arrest of evolution. Societies may become frozen into rigid masses, in the same way that suns and planets and living organisms do when they part with their life-heat. And when a society does this its mass is out of all comparison to its heterogeneity, or want of heterogeneity, both structural and functional. Hence the small physical, intellectual, and moral progress made in a vast period of time by such societies as the Chinese compared with the great progress made in a much shorter time by other peoples. Hence also the inability to make more or rapid progress. Hence also one of the most difficult problems Sociology has ever had to solve. But the encouraging amount of attention now being given to this question renders further insistence upon it unnecessary. Though the inferences drawn by those who have considered the matter have not always been correct, the fact that the Chinese society is an aggregate of this order is called in question by none.

To call attention to our physical proficiency and to the glorious achievements due to our unsurpassed intellectual activity during the history of our society and especially during the latter half of the present century would be superfluous. We cannot open our eyes without evidence of it being thrust upon us everywhere. But, turn them which way we will, the sociologist's diagrams bring out into prominence one significant fact. They show us, not that the savage has outstripped us in any one of the three departments which make up complete civilization; they show us, indeed, a great advance on our part during the course of the national life in physical, intellectual, and moral civilization; but they indicate also very clearly that, whilst in early stages, amongst savages of the present day or amongst primitive men, their prototypes, physical, intellectual, and moral civilization stand nearly on an equal footing—a footing, at least, which would give reason for believing that, if properly cared for, no one of the three would be far behind either of the others throughout the race—at the present time, amongst ourselves, physical and intellectual civilization, and especially the latter, have advanced out of all proportion to our moral civilization, which, judging from the great distance it has lagged behind, shows signs of giving up the race altogether. We have but to look around us to see on all sides proofs of our glaring deficiency in this most important of all the elements of progress. Now and again we are almost forced to conclude that the signs of moral degeneration we had taken for mere temporary relapses are part and parcel of a real retrogression. Compare the intellectual triumphs of the present and recent ages with the degree of morality manifested day by day in the reports of murders, adulteries, fraud, and hundreds of other savage traits which disgrace our modern life and show what a little way we have as yet succeeded in getting from our primitive state of barbarism, and it will be obvious that it needs but to give these facts the briefest consideration to find abundant proof of the proposition that however high a stage we may have reached intellectually, our morality has relatively made scarcely any advance at all. Devoting nearly all our energies to the building up of our brains we have used up a large portion of the materials which properly belonged to the construction of our hearts, with the result that these are small and weak and beat very feebly. Alike in public and in private life the same truth is forced upon our attention. Actions classed as international, though by force of circumstances not so immoral as is usually supposed, are nevertheless in many cases as immoral as the circumstances admit, and often degenerate from legitimate diplomacy into a competition in trickery which in individual life would be classed as ungentlemanly, if not criminal. Yet in individual life we may discern a like hypocrisy. How many of our friends can we really trust? Who is there who has not to meet every day a man or a woman who he knows would, if he or she had not to give an equivalent (an immoral sentiment), stab him in the back on the first opportunity? He who commits criminal

acts against the man he calls his friend must be classed with the Kirghis chief who, whilst lavishing gifts on his guest, organizes an expedition to rob him before he reaches the next encampment. How many amongst our friends can we name who are precisely what they pretend to be? With what a feeling of healthy pride do we think of the one man we can trust implicitly—showing both that we have an ideal in morality and how few of those with whom we have to do have attained to it. Is this the degree of morality we should expect to accompany the magnificent intellect which succeeds in everything but in causing us to stay our progress in other directions and give heed to the one thing needful? When we remember that we have invented the phonograph, or that we can transmit four messages in pairs in opposite directions along the same wire at the same time, that someone has written the *Principles of Psychology* and the *Ethics*, whilst men discover planets which they cannot see and analyse the vapours of chemical changes in Sirius, we might seriously expect that a society which displays so high an intellectual state would display an equally high moral state. Yet what do we find?—our newspapers gloating on the details of murders and massacres, our legislators by imprudent measures sacrificing human lives for votes at the next election, five million followers of him who commanded them to turn the cheek to the smiter armed to the teeth with the express purpose of exterminating their fellow Christians, millions annually spent by Christians in devising more efficient means of blowing Christians into eternity, the selling by tens of thousands in a few days of sensational novels which appeal to the lowest emotions, the toleration in our drawing rooms of a thinly veiled type of conversation more meet for the phylacteries of the common lodging-house, a growing disregard of truth and plain dealing in private and business life—in short, a state of moral uncivilization which, since it cannot be said to be characteristic of savage life, we have no alternative but to place somewhere below savagery. We must cease to call ourselves civilized as long as we allow these relics of ultra-savagery to survive in our midst. Murder and the phonograph belong rightly to two different stages of the world's history, and their co-existence in a society shows that these stages co-exist, and, as one cannot be described as indicative of savagery, so neither can the other be said to be a sign of civilization: the immoral trait survives along with the intellectual triumph; and we are, in so far, uncivilized. It has been said in another connection: "Not reverence, not admiration, scarcely even respect, is caused by the sight of a hundred million Pagans masquerading as Christians," and we may here add that neither are these feelings caused by the sight of a hundred million savages masquerading as civilized men. It would surely be worth our while to pause and listen to the still small voice only now and then audible in the great and strong whirlwind of our mad intellectual onrush. One of the most alarming discoveries the student of the present day can make is that the weakness of our moral nature is scarcely even recognised. Read the utopias and elaborate plans for the reconstruction of society which are published periodically, and you find the physical and intellectual parts of our civilization are the prominent topics, whilst the moral is either left out of account altogether or passed over in a few pages. Our newspapers and magazines are full of papers and articles about the weakness of our strong navy, but scarcely a line do we see on the weakness of our weak selves. Here and there only is a writer to be found who lifts up a dissentient voice by the roadside as the pageant of intellect passes by, and who begs for a little aid to the cause of morality from those who throw up their caps in its wake. We are forced finally to acquiesce in the words of Amiel, the thinker: "The statistician will register a growing progress and the moralist a gradual decline: on the one hand a progress of things; on the other a decline of souls. . . . The whole becomes less barbarous and at the same time more vulgar." And again: "Moral love places the centre of the individual in the centre of being. It has at least salvation in principle, the germ of eternal life. . . . to know is not virtu-

ally to love . . . the redemption wrought by science or by intellectual love is then inferior to the redemption wrought by will or by moral love. . . . Science, however spiritual and substantial it may be in itself, is still formal relatively to love. Moral force is then the vital point." Other writers, our philosophers especially, might be quoted in similar strain, but sum them all up and what a feeble shout it is after all compared with the roar of the huge intellectual breakers which flood our social life.

"But," will come the rejoinder, "why not?" "What does it matter?" some will say. "If physical and intellectual welfare bring us comfort, why not be happy while the sun shines? Life is short enough anyhow. If our bed is comfortable, why not make the best use of it? If we have a good gun, what does it matter whom we slay? Nature is 'red in tooth and claw,' and we will take our example from her. Let the fittest survive. If by caring for the body and letting the soul look after itself we can attain comfort and happiness, well. As long as we can do so without present injury, let us hate and fight and kill—

... fearless sin and laughing set our lips
To the sweet wild cup that shall our souls eclipse.

To this the reply is, first, that we cannot thus attain true happiness, and, second, that so long as we are still one-third savage we have no right to consider ourselves completely civilized. But the most important rejoinder is, that being but two-thirds civilized failure to attain the remaining third implies loss of the other parts already attained and a relapse into primeval barbarism. There is no standing still in the history of societies. The state which comes nearest to it is a state of rigidity produced by the want of pliability caused by the impact of external forces during evolution; but there is here in reality nothing stationary: though the movement be slow and imperceptible, the society is being carried either onwards in evolution or backwards to dissolution. If we are to learn a lesson from Greece and Rome we shall see that failure to make our moral civilization sure means the weakening and final overthrow of our physical and intellectual civilization. We cannot imagine a licentious or dissolute nation keeping its place at the head of the world for any length of time. Considering how involved sociological phenomena nearly always are, it is not a little remarkable that an instance should exist in which the relation between cause and consequence is plainly visible. Over the militancy and luxurious selfishness of imperial Rome there arose, at the beginning of our era, a small cloud, no bigger than a man's hand, from which there shone forth, had they but read it aright, the secret of national salvation, of which many were then in ardent search. One of the characteristics of progress, expressed in the law of rhythm, is the inability of individuals and aggregates of individuals to keep a middle course. Who is there who has not his periods of joy and grief, of health and disease? So, in the same way, nations, in making for the goal of all life, now progress and now retrogress, swaying sometimes to one side and sometimes to the other. Yet when habituated to the one extreme the other may appear too absurd even to be rationally considered. Thus, steeped in a life of egoism and egotism, Rome received with a feeling of distrust and revulsion the new doctrine of altruism brought to her by the followers of Jesus Christ. Not recognising in him the physician who brought with him the true antidote to her sickness, she crucified her Christ, as many in their ignorance and blindness have done before and after her. At the present day we behave in precisely the same way to that more rational doctrine of a duly balanced egoism and altruism which must supersede both extremes if we would advance beyond the condition to which the nations who have enthusiastically adopted either the one or the other have attained. The importance of the issue thus becomes obvious. It is not a mere difference of opinion, but a matter of life and death. The greatest question we can ask ourselves is: Are we or are we not becoming more moral? All that is sacred to a man—his life, his work, his love, his religion—must be affected by the answer he gives to this one question. So far as we can see, the facts say "No." The strain and stress of modern competition are searing

our sympathies and hardening our hearts. Brows of brass are not to be seen amongst savages, but we see them around us everywhere now. Contemplating the actions and motives of daily life, individual and social, we cannot deny that our moral civilization has not made the advance which was to be expected from the enormous progress made in other directions. We have done the one, but we should not have left the other undone.

Morality, then, first;—first that is, not because physical and intellectual attainments are not equally important factors, but because the moral, having been so little cared for, requires special attention: both for this reason and also as being all essential as a pre-requisite to success in the struggle to come. Believing as we do that the white races, if not the English-speaking part of them, are the natural inheritors of the earth, we cannot regard signs of apparent decay as more than temporary retrogressions, resulting from that universal law of rhythm which embraces the contractions of the heart and the inflations of the lungs as well as the births and deaths of solar systems; but this must not blind us to the danger that temporary retrogressions, if allowed to overrun their limits, may imperceptibly change into permanent retrogression, dragging the society to destruction. There can be no doubt that we are now in one of these stages of temporary retrogression—due, we think, to inadequate acquaintance with the fundamental laws of life, and illustrated by proposals such as those for the upsetting of the present form of marriage—proposals which a study of the evolution of this institution would show must, if adopted, bring about a return to primitive barbarism. Whilst recognising therefore that the rhythmic course of life is both inevitable and in social questions useful as showing by direct experiment the impracticability of empyric ideas for the reconstruction of society (which can reach a more perfect state only through the slow operation of natural laws), it is both within our province and power to indicate certain traits the elimination of which Sociology shows cannot but make for the redemption of nations morally weak. With this object in view, let us endeavour to point out as briefly as possible some of the most prominent of the characteristics of our present state which seem to belong to the class of causes operating adversely from the standpoint of complete civilization.

First of all, the rule of small things must come to an end. What is it that so often compels the better-minded amongst us to live apart from men and from the world and to inhibit all but a select few of their fellow creatures? On the part of those who recognise the value and importance of social intercourse there must be some cause for this attitude. This cause is the rule of small things. Those who find that social intercourse is prejudicial, as lowering to the mind through petty jealousies and criticisms or discouraging through constant disparagement of their best and well-meant endeavours, naturally prefer to place themselves beyond the range of these uncivilizing influences. The dull current of existence—scarcely to be called life—stagnating around them produces an atmosphere as dangerous to mental health as that of the jungle or the fever-swamp is to bodily health. On the principle that you cannot touch pitch without being defiled, the few better members of a society are compelled by the larger number of worse members to exclude themselves from intercourse with them both on individual and social grounds, since each one of us has duties to perform to the race and to posterity as well as to himself. When the ordinary conversations or actions or petty dissensions and emptinesses of our present everyday life and the low state of mind implied by them are taken into account, it will be seen that there is no other course. It is a physiological truth that emotion of any kind militates against intellectual activity; hence the more energy is absorbed in trifles the less remains for intellectual development, and instead of advance being made towards complete civilization a state of degeneration is the result. He whose mind can rise to no higher level than that indicated by the occupation of a large portion of time, which might be profitably

devoted to other ends, in attempting to find some grounds, just or unjust, for accusing his neighbour of rudeness or insult, or in lying in wait like an assassin for an opportunity of socially stabbing him in the back by enlarging on his faults, or inventing for him faults which he does not possess, and belittling or concealing his virtues, can be held to have reached a no more advanced stage of civilization than the Fijian, whose ethics of enmity are so little qualified by the ethics of amity as to have produced "intense and vengeful malignity" as a characteristic mental feature of the tribe. He whose sole business consists in endeavouring to hinder the progress of others very often finds that he succeeds only in stopping his own. Aggression leads to counter-aggression, generally of a more incisive and destructive kind. The savagery of civilization shown in the thirst for retaliation cannot but be regarded as a survival of the primitive blood feud, which continued until an equal number of victims had been killed on both sides. The lack of the re-representative emotions which hold the simpler ones in check, so conspicuous in the Chinook Indian or in the Brazilian, who is said to rage over and bite a stone against which he strikes his foot, is no less conspicuous in our modern social intercourse. In brief, it is impossible to study our present moral state without having the conviction thrust upon us that, as seen in these absurd and useless though harmful survivals, much of our new civilization is but an aggravated form of the old savagery differently spelt. "In the average mind," says one of our philosophers, "the pain constituted by consciousness of having done something intrinsically wrong bears but a small ratio to the pain constituted by the consciousness of others' reprobation: even though this reprobation is excited by something not intrinsically wrong. Consider how difficult it would be to get a lady to wheel a coaster-monger's barrow down Regent Street, and how easily she may be led to say a malicious thing about some lady she is jealous of—contrast the intense repugnance to the one act, which is not in itself reprehensible, with the feeble repugnance to the other, which is in itself reprehensible; and then infer how great is the evolution of the moral sentiments yet required to bring human nature into complete fitness for the social state."

If there be any who think these matters trifling and too unimportant to be taken into serious account, let them recall to mind the scientific fact that praise, by stimulating the nerves acting on the visceral muscles, may and does promote digestion, and it will readily be seen how much greater the sum total of our activities might be by general exercise of a properly adjusted mutual sympathy. As the minute invisible germ may cause an unhealthy state of the whole body, so the apparently most trivial matters, if allowed to remain in the system, may produce a diseased social condition. The type of half-caste mind indicated by its double character reproduces the worst characteristics of both states, just as the half-caste body inherits the lowest traits of both parents. But the matter bears a still more important aspect. If acquired characters are inherited, as scientists now generally admit them to be, we see that our actions and frames of mind have a social and historical as well as an individual significance, and that we are now forming not only our own characters, but to some extent those also of our children and of future generations. So that those mental features which we may now happily still regard as only temporary may, if not checked in time, by and by become permanent, to the incalculable injury of the race. The character of a nation, we repeat, is the character of its component units. Not only is the prevalent state of uncivilization in itself prejudicial to the society, but it also negatives that co-operation without which there can be no successful resistance to aggression. The point is, that we do not lead as efficient lives as we might. Many of us only exist, which is what the plant or the cow does. What we want is to live. It needs but to call to mind the healthier condition of him who habitually endeavours, when he has time to concern himself with him, to discover his neighbour's good points instead of to dilate on his

bad ones, to see what a great gulf it is which is fixed between the two kinds of life.

Two essentials to civilization are a clean body and a clean mind. Whilst we recognise the necessity of the one, we do not seem to even suspect the necessity of the other. Not to dwell on the time wasted by allowing our minds to lie fallow or using them for useless purposes, the undeniable fact remains that habits of thought exercise powerful influences over our lives both physically and intellectually, and that he who devotes his mind to its proper and full uses will gain greater benefit than that to be derived merely from the employment of his intellect in the cause of self-civilization, important though this may be in itself. He will, in short, be the better man, and a nation composed of individuals like him will be a better nation than one in which the habits of thought remain on a lower or less active level. It is all part and parcel of that training and discipline tending towards complete life as opposed to that tending towards stagnation and death. As underlying so much that is vital in our social constitution and as giving untold advantage over those who neglect them, the truths that point to an efficient use of our best talents are above all others those we can least afford to disregard.

Complete moral civilization must thus supplement complete physical and intellectual civilization before we can be certain of securing a continuance of that process of social advance which has been going on from the beginning, and which, as likely to produce the highest form of life possible on this earth, it is our duty to promote to the best of our abilities. Yet this highest state is not to be reached without an effort, and as we value our civilization and the welfare of our children's children, our life, our work, our homes, our ideals, we must see to it that we make this effort now, while yet we may. It behoves us, moreover, whilst seeing to our moral salvation as the one thing needful to secure victory in the coming contest, to abstain also from acting the part of traitor to our race by aiding the enemy in however small a way, except in so far as it may be to our own advantage as a nation to do so. In this light both the missionary and the mercenary, who hires his body if not his soul for money to a people of low type, must be considered as committing immoral acts. Respecting the latter, at any rate, it may safely be said that the growing feeling of patriotism and pride of race must cause to be regarded with increasing repugnance any inversion of the order of civilization whereby the white man places himself beneath the yellow or black savage—an arrangement which, its participants being neither one thing nor the other (since there is no complete surrender of nationality as might be shown by adoption of the dress and manners and opinions of the lower race), must sooner or later result in their sharing the fate of the lukewarm church of Laodicea and being ejected from the stomachs of both parties. He who would be in a position to "stand up straight before God"—a quality indispensable to complete civilization—must first be able to maintain an erect attitude before his fellow men.

On this condition then alone can we rationally hope to retain our ascendancy on the earth, to further our civilization, and to look forward with confidence to the advent of a millennium in which our posterity shall enter into the inheritance it is yet in our power to secure for them. But let us not make the great error of supposing that our race, any more than others which have gone before it, possesses qualities which will bring us victory without great exertion on our part. That is no doubt what many a nation has thought in the past, yet one and all rose and fell and crept away into the silent darkness. The fight has yet to be fought, and only on the condition that our armour is strong and that nothing is wanting when the time of trial comes can we rightly hope for victory. Once we have seen to this, we may rest assured that no forces of any kind will prevail against a people three-thirds civilized. As no one really believes that the idiot or the fraud or the black-guard or the backbiter is the "coming man," so neither can we believe that a halt or unintelligent or immoral race will rule the world. All peoples of the earth are but occupying until the physically, intellectually, and morally

civilized shall come and enter into the inheritance prepared for those who, by using their talent to advantage instead of hiding it in the ground, shall deserve and receive this best reward. In this matter we cannot let the morrow take thought for the things of itself without committing the great sin of placing our descendants defenceless at the mercy of teeming races of men, unambitious and unclean, to whom civilization in the true sense of the word is and ever must be impossible. As far as we know it, the Universe is but dark and cold, the stars being only infinitesimal specks compared with the vast oceans of space which separate one from the other. Yet in our little corner of it, insignificant though it is and whatever the object of our existence in it may be, an inexorable law commands us, though we cannot see beyond nor conceive any ulterior benefit, to make upwards or be crushed under the conqueror's heel. There is no other way. We must secure the world for the best race. And our warrant for doing this is, that the sum total of pain will be less if the world is ruled by a civilized race than if misruled by a savage one.—Contributed.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the Company's hotel at noon on Friday next:—

The directors have now, in accordance with section 53 of the articles of association, to submit to the shareholders their report and statement of accounts for the six months ended 31st December, 1895.

The profit on working account amounted for the six months to \$24,258.56, as compared with \$5,714.06 for the corresponding period of 1895, being an increase of \$18,544.50.

The profit and loss account shows a credit balance of \$3,175.38 (after writing off \$4,288.58 for bad debts contracted prior to 1895, and paying \$4,698.60 for improvements to building and additions to furniture, &c.) as compared with \$576.92 at credit of the account on the 31st December, 1894, and as against a debit balance of \$10,379.17 on the 31st December, 1893.

Your directors propose to deal with the balance as follows:—

To write \$5,000 off furniture and to carry the sum of \$3,175.38 to next account.

This course has been decided upon in view of the absolute necessity existing for considerable renewals in furniture, appointments, &c., and which must be made during the present year.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. R. C. Wilcox and W. Parfitt retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, who are recommended for re-election.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX, Chairman.

Hongkong, 27th February, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
To Hotel property—			
Marine lot No. 5, and remaining portion of marine lot No. 3...		412,523.04	
Remaining portion of marine lot No. 7		408,157.26	
Praya reclamation, as per last report.....		12,543.17	
			833,223.47
To furniture account—			
As per last report.....		\$84,799.47	
Since added		1,823.60	
			86,623.07
Less written off as recommended in last report.....		1,000.00	
			85,623.07
To stock of wines and provisions		15,317.67	
To steam launch		2,500.00	
To cash		152.73	
To shares, as per last report		\$11,474.19	
Less shares sold		4,455.00	
			7,019.19
To licences attaching to 1896.....		480.00	
To fire insurance, 1896		2,100.02	
To Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.....		21,628.89	
To accounts receivable.....		13,577.75	
			\$981,627.79

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
By capital—			
8,879 shares at \$50 each (fully paid-up) ...	443,950.00		
By mortgage to Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited	500,000.00		
By sundry creditors	29,502.41		
By profit and loss account	8,175.38		
	\$981,627.79		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Dr.		\$	c.
To Crown rent	365.90		
To directors' and auditors' fees	1,650.00		
To rates and taxes	2,564.26		
To fire insurance	760.93		
To repairs and renewals	4,098.60		
To interest account	17,307.72		
To legal expenses	220.54		
To furniture account (calls against forfeited shares written off furniture account as recommended in last report)	1,000.00		
To suspense account (debts prior to 1895) written off	4,288.58		
To balance	8,175.38		
	\$41,031.91		

Cr.		\$	c.
By balance from 30th June, 1895	5,668.38		
By sale of old furniture	333.50		
By profit on Hotel working account for six months ending 31st December, 1895	24,259.56		
By rents of shops and offices	10,527.97		
By dividends on shares	242.50		
	\$41,031.91		

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

COMMODORE'S CUP RACE.

A race for a very handsome cup presented by the Commodore of the Club, Commodore Boyes, R.N., was sailed on Sunday, the 1st of March, in perfect racing weather. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round mark boat off Lyemun, Kowloon Rock, No. 1 Dock Buoy, mark boat off Lyemun, and Kowloon Rock (leaving all to port), finishing off the Police Pier (15 miles), and the following boats crossed the line a few seconds after gun fire at 11.15:—

Arrow.....	6.5 rating	Lieut. Carey	allowed
Meteor ...	1.6	Mr. T. Lammert	5½ mins.
Princess...	1.5	Dr. Lowson	5½ "
Erica	1.5	Mr. A. Denison	5½ "
Dart	1.5	Mr. A. H. Barlow	6½ "
Ladybird..	1.5	Mr. J. Hastings	6½ "
Payne ...	1.6	Royal Engineers	8 "
Stella	1.6	Capt. Sterling	11 "
Petrel ...	1.4	Mr. M. Jones	13 "
She	1.1	Mr. C. H. Gale	13 "
Seabreeze.	1.1	Lieut. Paley	16 "
Spankadiilo—		Lt. R. Dawson	26 "

The start was the best of the season, the boats crossing all along the line within 20 seconds after gun fire, with a good east wind. Princess, Dart, and Stella had a reef down, but the others carried full sail, but shortly after the start the Arrow hauled down her topsail and Ladybird tied down a reef. A few minutes after the start Erica was observed to show in front, with She in close company, Princess and Meteor being not far behind. Arrow went rather heavily at first, but the wind and waves increasing she very soon began to walk through the fleet. Off North Point some of the boats began to feel that a reef would not be amiss, but the heavy weights decided to risk whole sail. At Quarry Bay Arrow had got into second place, but Erica still held her own with her, and kept pride of place, rounding the Lyemun mark boat with a lead of over a minute from Arrow, with She and Princess about two minutes behind Arrow and Meteor close up to the Princess. In the run down to Kowloon Rock Arrow closed up on Erica and Meteor passed both She and Princess, the latter running away from She. At the Rock the wind was a little stronger and Erica nearly gybed into the mark, but she paid off just in time. Meteor tried to gybe, but no doubt scared at her sister ship's performance refused and took the bit in her teeth and made for Kowloon city. However, she was brought about and put on her course with little loss of time, but sufficient for Princess to pass her. A quick reach, during which Arrow got into first place, brought the boats down to the No. 1 Dock Buoy, which was rounded by

	H.	M.	S.
Arrow	12	50	15
Erica	12	50	25
Meteor	12	52	50
Princess	12	54	27
She	12	55	21
Payne	1	4	21
Dart	1	4	43
Ladybird	1	12	9
Stella	1	16	6

The crew of the Ladybird were observed to fondle the buoy as they went round, but they continued the race for sport. Stella here gave up, Petrel and Seabreeze having already done so. The wind had increased to a moderate gale, and Arrow and Princess further reduced their canvas, Arrow being now under mainsail and jib. Erica, Meteor, and She still held on to whole canvas, but were sailing a little free. They also took in water a little freely, too. In the second beat up to Lyemun the order became Arrow, Erica, Meteor, She, Princess, Dart, Payne, Ladybird.

In the run down, Arrow gained on the others considerably, her large spread of muslin being very useful off the wind. Off the Docks the wind was stronger than ever, and the waves were getting up, but, as it was all running now, this was not of so much importance. When off Blackhead's Point Princess went past She into fourth place, and a grand race finished as follows:—

	Actual time			Corrected time		
	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.
Arrow	2	13	59	2	13	59
Erica	2	15	1	2	10	31
Meteor	2	17	50	2	12	20
Princess	2	26	8	2	20	38
She	2	26	40	2	13	40
Dart	2	42	40	2	36	10
Payne	2	42	40	2	34	49
Ladybird	2	44	00	2	37	30

The cup was thus won by Erica, with Meteor second, and She third.

The eighth Club race, postponed from last week on account of the weather, was sailed off at the same time and resulted in a win for Erica, with Meteor second, and Princess third in the first class, She being first in the second class.

The cup was presented to the winner, Mr. Denison, by Miss Boyes, on the *Victor Emanuel* after the race, in the presence of the Commodore and a large number of the members of the Club.

This is the third Commodore's cup won by Mr. Denison since the formation of the Club in 1891.

The ninth Club race will be sailed on Sunday, the 8th March, weather permitting.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The twenty-seventh ordinary meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co., on the 27th Feb., at noon. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided, and there were also present Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. S. G. Bial, J. H. Lewis, M. D. Ezekiel, A. Ross (Consulting Committee), R. H. R. Burder (Acting Secretary), J. D. Humphreys, H. Humphreys, G. C. Anderson, P. Jordan J. R. Michael, G. H. Petts, V. H. Deacon, C. Palmer, G. L. Toulson, L. K. Davis, K. A. Chinoy, B. Pyramjee, J. M. G. Pereira, Lo Chun Sin, and Ho Fook.

The ACTING SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for three weeks I will with your permission take them as read. Owing to the closing of the agencies in the United Kingdom, the report has been issued much earlier than has been customary in previous years. The accounts, too, have been rendered in a slightly different form and now show the actual amounts disbursed for losses, charges, and commissions. These changes, I feel confident, will be appreciated by the shareholders. I regret that the 1894 account shows such an unfavourable result, due mainly to expenses in connection with the final closing of the agencies in the United Kingdom. The result would have been even worse than it is had it not been for an unexpected gain in exchange on remittances made to London to pay off the large

debit balance there. I regret that the balance of the 1894 account only admits of the payment of the usual bonus to contributing shareholders and a dividend at \$9.05 per share, as against \$14 for 1893. On the other hand, I am glad to see the 1895 account shows a balance at credit of \$260,712.64, which will doubtless be considered satisfactory by the shareholders. Until all the risks run off on 31st December next it is of course impossible to estimate, even approximately, the final result of the year's working, but if losses are not above the average a favourable account may be expected. As compared with previous years our premium income shows a large decrease, which is accounted for by the closing of agencies in the United Kingdom and the curtailment of risks in Calcutta owing to the low rates ruling there. The interest account also shows a falling off, caused by the reduction in the rate of Bank deposits, and the consequent lowering of interest on mortgages. Several large mortgages were paid off last May and the money reinvested in debentures and placed on fixed deposit with the local banks. The interest received from these two sources is somewhat low, but we consider it desirable for the Company to always have a large amount of assets which are easily realizable. It is very gratifying to the Consulting Committee and to the General Managers to be able to show a decrease of over \$50,000 in charges account. This makes the present ratio of expenses to premium as moderate as it was ten years ago. The outlook for the future is brighter than it has been for many years past, for since our last meeting tariffs materially increasing rates have been agreed to here and at many of our agencies. The major portion of our business is now written on absolutely net terms, and I think it is only a question of time until the bonus system is done away with altogether. We are adopting a most conservative policy with regard to all our risks at every agency, and with the view of making a closer investigation your Committee have decided to send the Acting Secretary on a tour of inspection on Mr. Veitch's return in April. Since the 31st December several fires have occurred here, at Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama, and Singapore, entailing a loss to the Company of \$18,300 nearly all of which falls on the 1895 account. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any question that may be asked.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. D. HUMPHREYS—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have very much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and the statement of accounts as presented to the meeting. I think that after the very full statement which has been made by the Chairman there is very little for the seconder to add; but at the same time it will perhaps be only right to draw attention to two or three points which might perhaps be otherwise overlooked. In respect of the 1894 account and the low dividend for the result of the working of that year, we must expect to suffer in common with everything else; everything suffered for two or three years, and there was a system—I might say, to use an expression that comes first to me—there was a sort of cutthroat business which I believe has ceased. I know it has ceased, and that is a thing that will not come again. Under the able direction of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., who have succeeded in almost everything they undertake, there is no reason to doubt that when these causes of loss are removed they will do as well as possible with your business, and that you will have the sympathy and a fair share of the support of the entire community in China. But as to the 1895 account, the result for that year's working is simply phenomenal. It is a magnificent result, and if it had been possible under the articles of association—I looked into the point and found it was not—I feel quite sure that if it had been possible for the General Managers to have recommended an interim dividend for 1895 to supplement the dividend which they have just declared for 1894, they would have had very much pleasure in doing so. But if we do not get it now we shall get it by and by. (Applause.) We know it is there, and that it is all right, and as for

the losses, I do not consider that any exceptional losses will result in respect of any risk that the Company holds for 1895, as I daresay you will all agree with me that when everything is on the boom there are not so many fires as there are when things are in a low and depressed condition. (Laughter.) There is another circumstance which I think ought to be referred to, so that it shall not pass by, and that is the circumstance that the General Managers intend to ask Mr. Burder to go round everywhere to inspect every risk that the Company has. It will be a long job, and although we have no reason to doubt that all our risks are perfectly sound, still it will be satisfactory no doubt to a great many people to have that confirmed by Mr. Burder's report. (Applause.) I do not think I need say any more. I believe Mr. Burder is going on the return of Mr. Veitch; he will commence immediately afterwards, and I think that the shareholders, in addition to being very happy with their General Managers, will also consider themselves very lucky in being served by such thoroughly reliable gentlemen as Mr. Veitch and Mr. Burder. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried.

Mr. G. H. POTTS—I beg to propose that the appointment of Messrs. M. D. Ezekiel and A. Ross on the Consulting Committee be confirmed, and that the present members, Messrs. C. P. Chater, S. G. Bird, J. H. Lewis, M. D. Ezekiel, and A. Ross, be re-elected.

Mr. TOMLIN—I have very much pleasure in seconding that proposal.

Carried.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS proposed, and Mr. BYEAMJEE seconded, the re-election of Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and A. Coxon as auditors.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend and bonus warrants will be ready on Friday. I thank you for your attendance, gentlemen.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE LATE MEETING OF THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—"Proposed by Mr. Broker Stokes and seconded by Mr. Broker Mody that the director's fees be doubled. Carried unanimously." The great Confucius, I think, defined an honest broker to be a square man fitting a round hole, which shows, beyond doubt, how deeply the Sage had pondered the subject. Joking apart, I, for one, am thankful that these directors were content with only doubling their salary; they might have quadrupled it, for it is very probable that no one present at the meeting would have objected. Was there ever a community so run? The same half dozen names figure on the boards of almost all the important enterprises in the colony. It would be interesting to know how many hours each month these industrious men give to the affairs of the Dock Company, let alone those of the other numerous concerns they are paid to manage? And let it be remembered that these persons are all the heads or managers of firms, whose business must engage their first and chief consideration. It is simply impossible to understand how they can find the necessary time, if their duties are *bona fide* and are honestly discharged, unless they had the miraculous power of prolonging the day of 24 hours to one of 48 or 72 hours, and although they have doubtless the power of adding to their salaries, yet even the kind brokers cannot so lengthen their days. The fees of the directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. were already exceedingly liberal, viz., \$3,500 each half year, and to increase this to \$7,000 is simply an outrage on the shareholders, for it is very evident that they can give no adequate return for such prodigal remuneration. I think that the *Shanghai Mercury* lately put the matter in a nutshell when it wrote—"The Hongkong shareholders are a puny lot and never like facing the music of directors' meetings."—I am, sir, &c.,

RHADAMANTHUS.

27th February, 1896.

THE LATEST COUP D'ETAT IN KOREA.

The following very interesting extract from a private letter dated Seoul, the 15th instant, has been kindly given us for publication. Its accuracy is unimpeachable:—

"On Monday, the 10th February, the Russian guard came up to Seoul, 100 men with one gun; immediately after their arrival the King and Crown Prince made their escape from the Palace. They left in women's chairs (those that are closed all around and have a sort of tassel, made of silk mostly, hanging in front), with a woman walking on each side of the chair—otherwise they went without any escort, just like common noblemen's wives; no Russian soldiers or sailors went to the Palace. The King escaped by his own free will. Soon after his arrival at the Russian Legation, the King revoked the hair-cutting edict. Proclamations were stuck all over the city, ordering the immediate arrest of the whole Cabinet, every member of which was to be executed immediately and all heads, ten in number, to be sent to the Russian Legation to the King. The Police caught three Ministers, Kun Hun-chip, late Prime Minister, Chong Pyong-ha, late Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, and Yu Kil-chun, late Minister of the Home Office.

"The two first were executed on the day of the proclamation, the 11th of February, at the Big Bell; they were not killed by the mob. The third one, the real rascal of the whole lot, was rescued by the Japanese soldiers and is now, as they say, together with all the other persons 'who are wanted,' staying in the Japanese Legation.

"One Japanese who struck a Korean in a crowd standing near the execution ground was killed by the Koreans; otherwise everything is perfectly quiet in Seoul; Japanese women and children walking about unmolested in the streets. The troops who were sent to defeat the people who did not want to get their hair cut have been recalled. This stupid hair-cutting has cost the Japanese their influence; how the people despised the new law is best shown by the fact that a lot of Koreans have been seen with their *mangun* (hair net) and their top-knot (real or false) on and dressed in the old style."—N. C. Daily News.

THE ROBBERY OF SOVEREIGNS ON THE "WHAMPOA."

Shanghai, 24th February.

Nineteen men were charged in a body at the Mixed Court this morning with having stolen from on board the steamer *Whampoa*, on or about the 15th instant, sixty-seven sovereigns. The circumstances connected with the theft are as follows:—About six months ago, during a voyage from Australia, the *Whampoa* had on board a bag containing 500 sovereigns. These were delivered over to the second officer, who locked them up in the treasure room. At the end of the voyage the bag was found to be missing, and though a thorough search was made they could not be found. Soon afterwards the Chinese crew were discharged and a new lot of men taken on. On the 15th inst., as the ship was lying at Boyd & Co.'s jetty, the cement floor of the galley was being taken up, and a lot of sovereigns were found underneath; how many there were cannot be ascertained. The men who made the discovery at once appropriated a good share, and bought the silence of the rest of the crew with donations from the same source. The whole proceedings, however, came to light, and several of the crew at once decamped, one man, the boatswain, having with him thirty-four sovereigns. The police were communicated with, and through the energetic efforts of the, we must say, most efficient detective staff, both foreign and native, the missing men were all apprehended and sixty-seven sovereigns recovered. The man with the thirty-four was arrested in a village at Yangtzepoo, while another was discovered in a village in Pootung. The result of the appearance of the nineteen men at the Mixed Court this afternoon was that sixteen of them were sentenced to six months' imprisonment each, while the three principals were given a month's

cangue. The Court added, however, that if it should be found that any of the prisoners had assisted in the recovery of the money, they could be brought up again and have their sentences modified.—*Mercury*.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT KIANGYIN.

200 LIVES LOST.

We learn from Kiangyin, under date the 24th February, that the secret societies are at work again. Just before 1 p.m. on Sunday a terrible explosion took place on the left bank of the river. The main powder magazine which contained a large amount of powder blew up; it is not known whether it was by accident or design, but it looks like the latter; as rifle firing was going on after the explosion, and the property of one of the captains was stolen. It is reported that two hundred lives were lost, and there are many wounded. The foreigners on the right bank are afraid to cross, as the Anhui soldiers are in a state of mutiny; are holding their General as a prisoner, and intend to kill him. The foreign instructors when the mutiny breaks out will move over to the Hunan troops on whom they can rely and who will not assist the Anhui men. Our own correspondent writes:—

"Of old a soldier was one who was paid a *solidus*; the Chinese soldier is one who is promised a *solidus* and is expected to be filled and satisfied with the promise. No marvel then that great difficulty is being experienced by the rapacious officials in disbanding the hasty levies who were to drive the Japanese into the sea. At this place insubordination has reigned for the past three days, the soldiers having taken charge of officials and everything else they could lay their hands on, and proceeded to say what they would and what they would not do. This was brought about by orders having been received from high authorities to disband a camp that has been stationed here a number of years.

"As usual in almost all affairs, governmental or otherwise, the whole plan had leaked out before the General in command had matured his plans enough to act; so that when he was ready the soldiers had also matured their plans and refused to obey. They are largely Hupeh men, and refused to be disbanded here, as was attempted. Further grievances were found in that the General was not paying what he had been ordered to pay the men. Possession was quickly taken of the General's quarters, and his furniture went the way such articles usually go in a Chinese brawl. Afraid to vent their anger on the real offenders, they show what they might do with their enemies were they so inclined by breaking the furniture to pieces.

"In the excitement of the above heroic action the whereabouts of the General himself had been neglected, so that gallant leader left off the fighting, thus being fresher for the running away, and showed remarkable alacrity for one so corpulent as the General is known to be. Finding that the big bird had flown the little ones were made to suffer, and in the scrimmage a captain had his arm cut off and died soon after from loss of blood. This was Friday last, the 29th. Yesterday (Sunday) a rush was made by the soldiers, so it is reported, on the magazines of the camp. Here such strenuous efforts were made, and such really heroic measures used, that the soldiers were completely subdued; for the magazine was fired, more than two hundred were killed and a great number wounded. So terrific was the explosion that houses were shaken two miles away. The affair has not yet been settled, but is looked on with perfect indifference by the natives of the city, since the fight is in the camp and does not concern them. The intervention of the "Dragon Eye" (Literary Chancellor) has been asked, but in spite of his high rank his known corruption is so great that it is doubtful if he will be able to pacify the disturbed elements.—N. C. Daily News.

At Swatow during the month of January the maximum temperature was 76, on the 10th, and the minimum 47, on the 20th, the mean for the month being 61.3. The rainfall amounted to 1.53 in.

HONGKONG.

Plague in the colony is by no means so serious as some people imagine. Up to yesterday the total number of cases reported in Hongkong since January 1st last was 179, or an average of not three a day, and of that number 154 proved fatal. The Sanitary Board, which met on Thursday, is doing all in its power to check the disease, and it is generally thought by the authorities that we shall not have an epidemic this year. The few sporadic cases which have cropped up need not cause any alarm. The shareholders in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited, met on Thursday. At the City Hall Ovide Musin has been giving performances on the violin, of which instrument he is a most finished player, and the entertainments have been a great musical success.

There were 4,203 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 212 were Europeans.

The appointment of Mr. J. W. N. Kyshe to be Registrar of the Supreme Court is notified in Saturday's *Gazette*.

Several keepers of common lodging houses were fined at the Police Court on the 26th Feb. for failing to clean their premises at the proper period.

There were 33 in-patients treated in the Alice Memorial Hospital last month and the number of out-patient visits was 601. At the Nether-sole Hospital the numbers were 33 and 13 respectively.

Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co. inform us that the N. P. S. Co.'s steamer *Hankow* arrived at Yokohama from Tacoma on the 25th Feb. with damage to machinery, and will be delayed there for some weeks.

The steamer *Orono*, which arrived on the 1st March from Moji, reports that on the 29th February she rescued three Chinese fishermen from a junk which was in a sinking condition. One man belonging to the junk was drowned.

At the Magistracy on the 26th Feb. before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, the master of the *Chang Fat*, a steam launch, was fined \$25, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment, for carrying fourteen passengers in excess of the number allowed by his licence.

At the Police Court on the 28th Feb. the master of the steamship *Cass* was fined \$10 for blowing the vessel's whistle for an unnecessary length of time. On Sunday morning between eleven and twelve o'clock several long blasts were blown in order to hurry up passengers.

Auguste Martin, a seaman at the Sailors' Home, was sent to gaol for three months by Mr. T. Sercombe Smith on the 28th Feb. for stealing a shipping federation book containing three discharges and two \$5 notes belonging to another seaman in the home named Crossman.

At Canton on Friday evening a dance was given by a number of the Shameen residents as a farewell to four ladies who are leaving for home by the next French mail. The attendance of the officers from the English and German gunboats *Archer* and *Illis* added to the brilliancy of the occasion.

Two German seamen belonging to the *Prinz Heinrich* were found trespassing near the field works of the Kowloon Fort Battery on Sunday night and they were promptly arrested. At the Police Court on Monday they said they could not read English and therefore the notices were unintelligible to them. A fine of \$3 was imposed upon each defendant.

A private meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Limited, was held on Saturday, at which the recommendation of the General Managers (Messrs. Shewan and Co.) to raise the capital of the Company to \$250,000 by adding \$60,000 taken from the profit and loss account and \$40,000 from the reserve fund was approved. Shareholders will receive new scrip in the proportion of two new shares for three old ones, and out of the balance of \$18,000 remaining in hand a dividend of ten per cent., or \$5 per share, is to be paid. The remuneration of the General Managers was increased, but a proposal to raise the fees of the Consulting Committee did not meet with the support of the meeting.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Mr. F. J. Badeley has been appointed Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary and Acting Clerk of Her Majesty's approval of the Ordinance to further amend the Police Force Consolidation Ordinance and the Ordinance to further amend the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-houses, and Markets Ordinance is notified in Saturday's *Gazette*.

During the week ending 28th February there were thirty-six cases of plague in the colony. On the 21st there were two cases, on the 22nd three, on the 23rd nine, on the 24th six, on the 25th four, on the 26th two, on the 27th three, and on the 28th seven.

We understand that, in order to give effect to the wishes expressed in a recent despatch from Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, H. E. the Governor has appointed the following gentlemen as the British Trade Committee:—Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Chairman), Hon. W. C. H. Hastings, R.N., Messrs. N. J. Ede and Chantrey Inchbald.

On Saturday Mr. T. Sercombe Smith held the enquiry respecting the death of a coolie who was found strangled to death on the hill-side on the Wanchai Road. Dr. Marques, who held a post-mortem examination of the body, stated that deceased might have committed suicide. The verdict was that deceased had died from asphyxia caused by strangulation.

The *Edgar* Relief Fund has been closed, so far as Hongkong is concerned. The account, which has been audited by Rev. St. Aidan Baylee and Mr. R. T. Wright, shows that the total amount of the subscriptions, together with the interest, is \$1,190.89, which realizes in sterling £130 4s. The draft for this sum will be forwarded to the London and South Western Bank. Mr. F. F. Raper, the Hon. Treasurer, desires to thank the subscribers for their donations.

A boy in the employ of Mr. G. J. B. Sayer, 2, Kimberley Terrace, Kowloon, was charged at the Police Court on the 27th Feb. with wilfully disobeying the reasonable orders of his master and with being insolent. On Wednesday evening the prisoner was told twice to give the coolie some spoons and forks to clean, but he refused to carry out the order and was very impertinent. He was put outside the back door and "touched with the foot," but he burst open the door, and he was then given into custody. He was fined \$5 or fourteen days.

Croakers who predict that plague will again be epidemic amongst us this year will be interested to know that the disease, which existed to a slight extent at Canton a few weeks ago, has now entirely disappeared from that city, so far as can be ascertained. Possibly there may be occasional cases, but if so they are not sufficiently numerous to appreciably increase the ordinary mortality, and there is no panic or apprehension amongst the public on the subject. In the villages surrounding Canton sporadic cases continue to occur, but not in any great number.

Joseph Liddy, a seaman on the *Empress of Japan*, was charged at the Police Court on the 27th Feb. with assaulting Charles Smith, a seaman, and Alexander Brown, the boatswain. The prisoner admitted the first offence. In the case of Brown the complainant said that the defendant knocked him down and threatened to kill him simply because he expressed sympathy with Smith, who was a smaller man than the defendant, who had fought with him. Defendant also threatened to kill anyone who took Smith's part. The Magistrate sent the prisoner to gaol for one month on each charge, the second sentence to take effect after the expiration of the first.

It is rumoured at Canton that the presence of the British gunboat *Archer* and German gunboat *Illis* at that port is in connection with the prospective opening of the West River. Another report is that the *Archer* is kept there as a precautionary measure in case of any riotous outbreak arising from the clearing out of the canal separating Shameen from the city. As already reported, the English and French Consuls notified the native authorities that the boats occupying the canal must be cleared away and the canal dug out and cleaned. It is said the officials expressed some apprehension of a riot if the boats were disturbed, and hence the presence of the *Archer*.

The Institute of Engineers and Ship-builders gave another enjoyable smoking concert on Saturday night last. The talent displayed was exceptionally good, the songs being rendered with an amount of taste and finish not too frequent at smokers. The programme occupied till twelve o'clock, when "Auld Lung Syne" was heartily given, led by Mr. Aitken. Mr. Tyndale-Lea played the accompaniments, and needless to say they were well played. The principal singers were Messrs. Gilchrist, Main, Crispin, Murphy, Fenwick, Kinghorn, J. B. Duncan, and Bridger. The Institute has just purchased a fine transposing piano for use at these concerts, which are more and more enjoyable on each occasion. The piano is one of Russell's (London) and was supplied by Messrs. W. Robinson & Co. The final selection was made on Saturday night, when the instrument was tested in competition with a Collard and Collard.

The returns of the Portuguese population of Hongkong collected by the Consul-General, in connection with the census of Portuguese subjects in the Far East now being taken by the Macao Government, show, we learn from the *Extrema Oriente*, a falling off as compared with the general census of the colony in 1890. According to the latter the number of Portuguese residents in Hongkong was four thousand odd, while now, when an increase ought to have been shown, the returns are short of that number by no less than eight hundred. Two explanations of this suggest themselves to our contemporary: either in 1890 many persons who were not Portuguese returned themselves as such, or on the present occasion they have forsaken their nationality, the latter being an explanation which the *Oriente* would regret on grounds of patriotism. An appeal is made to those who have not yet sent in returns to do so.

At the Magistracy on the afternoon of the 27th February Mr. T. Sercombe Smith held an inquiry respecting the death of a woman named Wong Yung. On Wednesday evening Mr. H. P. White, of Tamsui, was riding a pony on the Wanchai Road, and just after passing the Sugar Works the animal went off at a gallop and then got out of control. The deceased and a man and a woman were in the middle of the road and walking in the same direction as Mr. White, who was with a friend. He shouted, but probably owing to a high wind which was blowing at the time, the people did not hear him. They heard his second shout, and then separated, but the woman after going to the right suddenly changed her mind and went back again. If she had remained where she first went the pony could have passed, but as it was she was knocked down by the animal and the base of her skull was fractured. She was taken to the Government Civil Hospital, but she died before arriving there. His Worship returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased died from fracture of the base of the skull caused by being knocked down by a pony ridden by Henry Percy White, who had lost control of the pony."

About four o'clock on the morning of the 26th February a policeman saw smoke proceeding from the first floor of 309, Queen's Road Central. He at once raised an alarm and the Fire Brigade, under Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings and Mr. Badeley, turned out, but owing to the absence of fresh water and to some difficulty in obtaining a supply from the sea, there was some delay before the flames, which soon enveloped the whole premises, could be played upon. The fire spread to 311, Queen's Road Central, and it was not until about seven o'clock that the flames were extinguished. The whole of No. 309 was destroyed, while only the top floor of 311 was burnt, the ground and first floors being damaged by water. The first floor of 309 is insured in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company for \$10,000, and the ground floor, which is occupied by a broker, with a German company for \$2,400, and also in the Meiji Fire Insurance Company for \$2,000. The top floor of No. 311 was occupied by a dentist and was not insured. About six o'clock the roof of 309 fell in and it was at first feared that some firemen were under it at the time, but happily it turned out that no one had been injured.

A list of masters, mates, and engineers who have passed their examinations before the Board of Examiners during 1895 is published in the *Gazette*.

The latest addition to the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s fleet, the *Sin Sang*, arrived on the 1st March. She is commanded by Captain Galsworthy, who was in command of the *Ko Shing* when she was fired at and sunk by the Japanese cruiser *Naniwa* whilst carrying Chinese troops to Korea. The *Sin Sang* is a steel spar deck steamer, and was launched on 16th November at Middlesborough by Sir Raylton Dixon & Co. Her principal dimensions are:—Length, 323 feet; beam, extreme, 41 feet; depth, moulded, 27 feet 6 in.; with a dead weight carrying capacity of about 4,500 tons on 22 feet. The vessel has been built on the deep frame system, under Lloyd's special survey for their highest class. Triple expansion engines, with cylinders, 23.26 and 59 inches by 42-inch stroke, were supplied by the North Eastern Marine Engineering Co., Limited, of Sunderland. The hull and machinery were built under the supervision of Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Duncan.

On Saturday Captain Jackson, of the steamship *Priam*, was summoned for attempting to leave the harbour with an excess of passengers. On the 29th October defendant cleared his ship with eight European and twelve Chinese passengers, but as it was afterwards discovered that he had no passenger certificate a clerk at the Harbour Master's office was sent to alter the port clearance to twelve passengers. The captain also reported a crew of forty-four. Police Constable Myers afterwards boarded the ship and found on board thirty-six Chinese passengers, twelve Malays, and a crew of forty-four. The defendant explained that at Kobe he obtained authority to take twenty-eight Chinese and twelve Malays, who belonged to the *Glaucus*, which had been sold, to Singapore, and it was quite an oversight that he had not declared them in the port clearance. He gained nothing whatever from them. When he left England his passenger certificate was valid and he understood it held good up to the time he was in Hongkong. The Magistrate, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, thought the defendant had acted *bona fide* throughout and that he did not intend to evade the port regulations. His statement in the port clearance, however, was not quite correct, and a fine of \$5 would therefore be imposed. It was necessary to insist upon the port regulations being exactly carried out.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	7,146,099	7,813,790
Amoy	685,228	772,692
Foochow	11,175,408	14,357,248
Shanghai and Hankow	21,111,512	21,591,499
	40,418,247	44,535,229

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Amoy	13,828,593	18,332,256
Foochow	6,066,651	4,626,555
Shanghai	29,029,320	25,796,160
	48,924,564	48,754,971

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	27,240,863	22,555,223

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	29,667,252	28,621,171
Kobe	18,434,402	16,682,616
	48,101,654	45,303,787

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 27th February.—(From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's circular.)—London advices to 25th current quote a firm market and 10/6 for

Blue Elephants. Raw Silk.—Firm offers have been freely made during the week on a basis of Tls. 345 for Gold Kilin, but with no response, so far, from consuming markets. Exchange has fluctuated considerably during the interval and has assisted no doubt in curtailing business. Settlements aggregate about 800 bales of all kinds, and comprise about 50 bales Tsateles, 100 Taysaam, 100 Yellow Silks, 150/200 Filatures. Wild S.lks.—Some 200 bales have found buyers at Tls. 175/177 for Market No. 1. Waste Silk.—No business. Pongees.—Amongst the settlements are 100 pieces White Shanghai Cloth 21-in. by 70 yds. weighing 56/57 oz. at Tls. 16.25. 2,500 Shantung Pongees (loaded) at Tls. 2.60 to Tls. 2.70 for 21/23 oz. of various lengths and widths.

Purchases include:—Tsateles.—Red Pagoda 3 at Tls. 432. Taysaam.—Green Kahing Green Almond Flower No. 1 at Tls. 325, 9/12 Moss Green Horse 4 at Tls. 317. Yellow Silk.—Mienchew at Tls. 262, Meeyang at Tls. 231 to Tls. 255. China Filatures.—Pegasus No. 2 at Tls. 495. Market chop at Tls. 435 to Tls. 445. Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw Market 1 at Tls. 175 to Tls. 177.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	47,256	45,394
Canton	14,033	12,888
Yokohama	17,487	19,037
	78,776	77,319

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Canton	9,180	6,568
Shanghai	9,141	7,357
Yokohama	25,735	22,738
	44,056	36,663

CAMPION.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—Quotations have advanced. The market is unsettled. Quotations for Formosa are \$89.50 to \$90.00. During the past week sales have been 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—There is little change to report in the position of the market. Following are the quotations:—

Shenklong, No. 1, White...	\$7.37 to 7.39	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.75 to 6.78	"
Shenklong, No. 1, Brown...	4.72 to 4.75	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.60 to 4.62	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.25 to 7.27	"
do. " 2, White...	6.69 to 6.71	"
do. " 1, Brown...	4.60 to 4.63	"
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.52 to 4.55	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	10.90 to 10.95	"
Shenklong	9.82 to 9.85	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, Hongkong to London, 27th February, took:—50 bales Waste Silk, 76 packages Canes, 4 cases Silk Piece Goods, 13 cases Cigars, and 9 packages Sundries; for Glasgow:—5 packages Sundries; for Gibraltar:—7 cases Cigars, 14 packages Matting, and 2 cases Silk Piece Goods; for Milan:—30 bales Raw Silk; for France:—536 bales Raw Silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—Bengal.—The demand has further fallen off and rates have consequently declined. New Patna closes at \$785, Old Patna at \$800, New Benares at \$765, and Old Benares at \$790.

Malwa.—The market has ruled dull, but no change has taken place in prices. Closing quotations are as follows:—

New	\$760 with allowance 1 1/2 to 2 catties.
Old	\$770 " 0 to 1 1/2 "
Persian.—Nothing has been doing in this drug during the interval. Oily continues to be quoted at \$620 to \$665 and Paper-wrapped at \$700 to \$755 according to quality.	
To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—	
New Patna	460 chests
Old Patna	1,150 "
New Benares	610 "
Old Benares	390 "
Malwa	300 "
Persian	1,200 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPTUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 27	795	807 1/2	775	800	760	770
Feb. 28	790	805	772 1/2	795	760	770
Feb. 29	787 1/2	800	770	795	760	770
Mar. 1	787 1/2	800	770	795	760	770
Mar. 2	782 1/2	800	765	790	760	770
Mar. 3	785	800	765	790	760	770

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—Large shipments are being sent to California and prices are advancing. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul.
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.50 to 2.52
Round, good quality	2.57 to 2.50
Long	2.78 to 2.80
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.67 to 2.69
Garden, " No. 1	2.82 to 2.84
White	3.18 to 3.20
Fine Cargo	3.29 to 3.32

COALS.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—No business reported.

Quotations unchanged and nominal.

Cardiff	\$12.00 to —	ex ship, nominal.
Australian	7.50 to 8.00	ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump	\$5.60 to 5.75	ex ship, steady
Milke Small	4.85 to —	ex ship, do
Moji Lump	4.00 to 5.50	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump	6.00 to 7.00	ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small	4.00 to 4.50	ex ship, nominal.
Hongay Lump	7.00 to —	ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—300 bales No. 10 at \$72.50 to \$76.50, 200 bales No. 12 at \$78.50 to \$77.50, 140 bales No. 16 at \$85 to \$94, 325 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$91. *White Shirtings*.—250 pieces Blue Elephant at \$4.90, 250 pieces Blue Stag at \$4.65, 250 pieces Sheep at \$4.60, 250 Camel at \$4.35, 250 Blue Dog at \$4.25. *Drills*.—450 pieces 15 lbs. Large Eagle at \$4.85. *Long Ells*.—60 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.

METALS.—Iron.—2,000 piculs square, round, and flat bars, at \$3.10. *Yellow Metals*.—30 cases Elliott 16/28 ozs. at \$24.50. *Quicksilver*.—100 flasks at \$113.

SHANGHAI, 27th February.—(From Mr. Geo. W. Noel's report.)—This has been a very unsatisfactory week owing to the unsettled state of exchange, which has quite knocked any desire the dealers may have had to enter into further transactions on the head. With the advice of higher silver rates it advanced an eighth to a farthing per diem after the last mail left, frequently fluctuating as much in a few hours, and seems to have quite bewildered the natives, who have evidently made up their minds to quietly wait until it has steadied down again. At first the rise was instrumental in getting a few orders through, but the possibilities of what it might go up to has had a deterring influence on buyers, particularly as the home markets do not look over strong. The present position is best judged by the auction prices this week, the business transacted privately being much too circumscribed to give any reliable indication of the feeling, as holders are not unnaturally firm and the business done is only to supply pressing requirements. There is a most extraordinary demand still for the 36-inch Shirtings, orders continuing to go through with considerable freedom and available supplies here meet with ready sale. Other Manchester makes are quiet, but a decline in the States, coupled with the improvement in exchange, has led to some buying for this market in both Sheetings and Drills. It having been decided by the parties interested not to ship any Piece Goods in the first Tientsin steamers, which are expected to leave here on the 5th proximo, buyers for that market are in no immediate hurry to operate, holding off in the hope of lower prices. It is anticipated that some 30,000 packages Yarn and Piece Goods will be sent up in the second batch of steamers, leaving on the morning of the 8th proximo, consequently it will be the best part of three weeks before any reliable information can be ascertained respecting the state of the market there. The Newchwang trade should have commenced by then and there seems

every prospect of its being an active one, though of course the bulk of its requirements have been already anticipated. The recent doings in Korea have naturally had a somewhat depressing effect on the Import-trade, to say the least of it, but, as there appears to be a fair chance now of her would be reformers giving up their self imposed task, it may return to the old groove again before long. The Auctions show a general decline all round, for Cottons and also most Woollens, the chief exception in the latter being Lastings, which are in unusually small stock for the time of the year. Advices from Manchester report a steady market, although there is not much doing. Cotton is a fraction lower and dull. The markets in the States are a shade easier, purchases being made this week at a decline of one to two per cent.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Biefeld's report.)—28th February:—Advices from home report continued advance in cost of Metals, Belgian Nail-roads being now quoted at 122/6d. c.i.f. Importers at present hold back all details of any business done and although several fair contracts in various lines have been booked, particulars cannot be obtained.

TUESDAY, 3rd March. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.75
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.80

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.23
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	—
Credits, 60 days' sight	—

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	179½
Bank, on demand	180.

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	179½
Bank, on demand	180

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	½ % pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	13 % pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	8.97
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per aetael	47.60

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 3rd March.—Business during the week under review has been somewhat brisker and rates in most cases show a further rise. The market closes strong.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—Further shares have changed hands during the week at 174 and 174½ per cent. prem. cash, and some small lots at equivalent rates on time. Market closes with buyers at 174.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have continued in fair demand and sales have been effected at \$76. Unions have found buyers at \$195, and more could be placed at the rate. Cantons after further sales at \$190 have improved to \$195, closing firm. Straits have been enquired for at \$25½, \$25½, and \$26, but we have heard of no sales and a higher rate would probably be paid for shares in view of the 10 per cent. dividend declared by the Company and the satisfactory report just issued. Yangtzes and North-Chinas have found buyers in small lots at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue in good demand and have risen to \$305 ex div. after sales at \$297½, \$300, and \$305 cum div.; market closes firm at \$305. Chinas have also been in some demand and shares have changed hands at \$89 and \$90 in fair lots.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao ruled steady during the early part of the week

and a fair business was negotiated at \$32½; towards settlements, however, with several lots thrown on the market, the rate weakened, and after a few sales at \$32½ sellers ruled the market; at time of writing shares are obtainable at \$32½. Indo-Chinas have again been dealt in, chiefly with Shanghai, at enhanced rates, shares having changed hands in moderate lots at \$64 and \$65 cash, at 65½ and \$66 for April, and at \$67 for May delivery; market closes steady. Douglasses, chiefly in consequence of the stoppage of the import of opium and the passenger traffic to Formosa by the Japanese authorities, have ruled weak, sellers vainly offering to part at \$52. We have heard of no sales. Enquiries addressed to the Managers of the Company as to whether this interference with the trade of ports erstwhile "Treaty Ports" was likely to continue elicited the reply that they could give no definite information, but that they were doing all in their power to have such vexatious restrictions on the trade removed.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are in demand at \$115, but no shares seem to be obtainable. Luzons have changed hands at \$60.

MINING.—Punjoms have continued quiet with small sales at \$5.75. Raubs and Jelebus have changed hands at quotations. The Punjom crushing for February will not be known until Saturday, but it is stated from good sources to be about 500 oz.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued in good demand and sales have been effected at 141, 142, 144, 145, 146, and 147 per cent. prem. ex div. and at 149 and 151 per cent. prem. for April and May. The market closes firm with an upward tendency and the rate of 150 per cent. prem. may confidently be looked for. (P.S.—Since the above was written Docks have changed hands at 149 and 150 per cent. prem., market closing strong with buyers.) Kowloon Wharves have made a somewhat unexpected jump to \$48 after sales at \$45½, \$46, \$46½, \$47, and \$47½, closing firm at \$48. Wanchais remain unchanged with no business to report.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have found further investing buyers at \$73½ and \$74, and a small sale was effected at \$74½, market closing steady at \$74½. Hotels have ruled quiet with small sales at \$23. The Company's report for half-year to December 31st, published in the *Daily Press* of 2nd inst., shows a considerable improvement in the working account and enables the Directors to recommend writing off a considerable sum and to pay for several improvements to the building and for new furniture. The Directors, however, do not recommend any dividend "in view of the absolute necessity existing for considerable renewals in furniture, appointments, &c., which must be made during the present year." West Points have ruled weak with sellers and no buyers, and the quotation must be looked on as nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons after sales at \$11½ and \$11½ have advanced to \$12. Electrics have been neglected at quotation. Ropes.—A scheme has been brought forward by the General Managers for an increase of capital by means of appropriating the reserve fund and the profits for 1895 (less 10 per cent. div. to be paid to shareholders) and giving two new shares for every three held by shareholders free of cost. The scheme was acquiesced in by a few shareholders at a private meeting held to ascertain the feeling on the proposal and will most likely be carried at an extraordinary meeting which will have to be called. The extraordinarily good results of working which such a scheme demonstrates caused quite a boom in the shares and buyers eagerly offered 10, 20, and 30 per cent. over last week's quoted price without bringing out sellers (if we except a sale that took place in the early part of the week at \$157½). Towards the end of the week the rate rose to \$200, but still, as far as we can learn, without leading to business. Market closes with sellers at \$200. Fenwicks have been enquired for and changed hands in the early part of the week at \$22½ and \$23, market closing firm at \$22½. Ices have been negotiated at \$98½, \$99, \$99½, and \$100, closing with sellers at latter rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$342.50 sellers]
Hongkong & S'hai ..	\$125	174 p. ct. prem.,—
China & Japan, prf. ..	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary ..	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred ..	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China ..		
B. Shares	£8	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$105, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$10
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$5, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$9
China Sugar	\$100	\$115, buyers
Chinese Loan '86 E.	Tls. 250	10 p. ct. prem.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$9
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$23, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$14, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6.75, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$87½, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$23, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$100, sales & sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$48, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$200, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	151 p. c. prem.,—
Insurance—		[\$318.75, sales]
Canton	\$50	\$195, sales
China Fire	\$50	\$90, sales & buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$76, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$305, ex div. sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 222½, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$26, buyers
Union	\$25	\$200, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$124, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$74½
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8.75, sales & buys
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$16, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$60, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$72½
Jelebu	\$5	\$3, sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.75, sales
Punjom	\$4	\$6, sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$2, sellers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$4.30, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$70, sales & buyers
China Shippers	£5	£2.10
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$51, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$32½, sales
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$65, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$39, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12, sales & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 28th February.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares changed hands locally at \$341.25 cash, and \$342.50 for delivery on 31st March. Our latest Hongkong quotation is \$342.50, with buyers. The London rate is unchanged at £1 10s. 0d. National Bank of China.—There are sellers in Hongkong at \$27. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been dealt in freely at Tls. 45 and Tls. 46 for cash, Tls. 47½ for 30th April, and Tls. 49 for 30th June. They were also purchased, from Hongkong, at \$61½ and \$63½ for cash. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat shares were placed locally at \$37 and to Hongkong at \$37½, including the \$5 payable out of capital. Holders now ask \$38. Docks.—Shares in Boyd & Co. are wanted at Tls. 200 for delivery on 31st March. S. C. Farnham & Co.'s shares have changed hands at Tls. 190 for cash and Tls. 192½ for 31st March and 30th April. Marine Insurance.—North-Chinas have been placed at Tls. 225, and Yangtzes at \$122½. Straits are wanted at \$25½ but are held for higher rates. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been placed to Hongkong at \$89 ex div. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares have been purchased at Tls. 107½ and Tls. 110. Cargo Boats. Shanghai Tugs are wanted. Shanghai Cargo Boats have changed hands at Tls. 220, and Cooperatives at Tls. 200. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been in strong demand, and business has been done at Tls. 40 to Tls. 43. Some shares have since been sold at Tls. 42, which we quote as the closing rate. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares have been sold, fully paid up, at Tls. 80, and those with Tls. 30 paid up at Tls. 57. There are some fully paid up shares offering at Tls. 80. Hongkong Lands are wanted in Hongkong at \$72. Factories.—International Cotton Manufacturing shares have been placed at \$50. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Gas shares have

been sold at Tls. 260, Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 275 cash and Tls. 295 for delivery on 30th June, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 53, at which they are wanted, shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. at \$75 for delivery on 30th April, and Hall & Holtz shares at \$30 cash and \$31 for delivery on 30th April. Loans.—Chinese E Loan Bonds were placed at Tls. 275, Waterworks 1894 Debentures at Tls. 112½, plus the accrued interest in both cases.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 28th February (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—The only feature of any importance to report during the past fortnight is a rise of 10s. per ton on cargo to New York *via* Suez. The Conference Agents decided at a meeting held last week to increase the rate in this direction to 40s. for all engagements made after the departure of the *Port Adelaide*, presumably in anticipation of the opening of the northern ports early in March. For London there has been no change, and business generally is quiet. Rates of freight are:—From Shanghai to London by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 50s.; New York, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York *via* London, general cargo 50s.; tea 50s.; Boston, general cargo 42s. 6d.; Philadelphia, general cargo 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 35s. net; New York, general cargo 50s. less 10 per cent. Havre direct, general cargo 37s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 35s, general cargo 40s. net; Marseilles, tallow 35s.; general cargo 37s. 6d. net. 45s. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York by sail, 23s. 6d.; New York by Pacific Lines, tea 1 cent gold nominal. Coast rates are:—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.10 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1 per ton coal. No disengaged vessel in port.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Tantalus* (str.), *Bombay* (str.), *Mirzapore* (str.).
For HAVRE.—*Dorothea Rickmers* (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Coptic* (str.), *City of Rio de Janeiro* (str.), *Queen Elizabeth*.
For VICTORIA.—*Hankow* (str.), *Chittagong* (str.).
For NEW YORK.—*Cerastes*, *Queen Olga* (str.), *T. F. Oakes*.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—
27, Marie Jensen, German str., from Saigon.
27, Chingping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
27, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
27, Inverlay, British str., from Saigon.
27, Cass, Chinese transport, from Pakhoi.
27, Smith, Chinese transport, from Pakhoi.
27, Doris, German str., from Saigon.
27, Yiksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
28, Cosmopolit, German str., from Swatow.
28, Letimbro, Italian str., from Bombay.
28, Canton, British str., from Canton.
28, Priam, British str., from Liverpool.
28, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
28, Michael Jensen, German str., from Pakhoi.
28, Cromarty, British str., from Moji.
28, Taiyick, German str., from Aroe Bay.
29, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
29, Kashing, British str., from Chinkiang.
29, Argyll, British str., from Saigon.
29, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Bellona, German str., from Kobe.
29, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.
29, Centurion, British cruiser, from a cruise.
29, Adowa, British str., from Saigon.
29, Brunhilde, German str., from Bangkok.
29, Donar, German str., from Bangkok.
29, Kriemhild, German str., from Hamburg.
29, Nerite, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Paoting, British str., from Wuhu.
29, Wing Hong, British str., from Swatow.
March—
1, Amigo, German str., from Bangkok.
1, Amoy, German str., from Saigon.
1, Azamor, British str., from Bombay.
1, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
1, Orano, British str., from Moji.
1, Oscarshel, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
1, Phra C. C. Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
1, Suisang, British str., from Shields.
1, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.

1, Glen Caladh, British bark, from Albany.
1, Hohenzollern, German str., from Y'hama.
1, Spondilus, British str., from Moji.
2, Catarina, British steam-yacht, from Kobe.
2, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.
2, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
2, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.
2, Alger, French ironclad, from Foochow.
2, Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
2, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
3, Hailoong, British str., from Coast Ports.
3, Bayard, French flagship, from Tonkin.
3, Afghan, British str., from Saigon.
3, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
3, Picciola, German str., from Saigon.

DEPARTURES.

February—
27, Cassius, German str., for Saigon.
27, Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
27, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., for Saigon.
27, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
27, Plover, British g.-bt., for a cruise.
27, Federation, British str., for Amoy.
27, Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
27, Ravenna, British str., for Europe.
27, Strathallan, Brit. str., for Canton.
27, Sultan, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
27, Taichow, British str., for Bangkok.
27, Tallee, German str., for Hongay.
27, Kweilin, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Wuotan, German str., for Saigon.
28, Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
28, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
28, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
28, Yiksang, British str., for Canton.
28, Cass, Chinese transport, for Shanghai.
28, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.
28, Formosa, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Smith, Chinese transport, for Shanghai.
28, Tritos, German str., for Bangkok.
28, Verona, British str., for Yokohama.
29, Boynton, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
29, Decima, German str., for Saigon.
29, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
29, Port Adelaide, British str., for N. York.
29, Priam, British str., for Amoy.

March—

1, Airlie, British str., for Timor, &c.
1, Bygde, Norw. str., for Saigon.
1, Cosmopolit, German str., for Swatow.
1, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
1, Kashing, British str., for Canton.
1, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
1, Wing Hong, British str., for Swatow.
1, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
2, Amigo, German str., for Canton.
2, Paoting, British str., for Canton.
2, Brodick Castle, Brit. ship, for S. Francisco.
2, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
2, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
2, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
3, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
3, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
3, Michael Jensen, German str., for Hoihow.
3, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
3, Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Europe.
3, Arratoon Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
3, Bellona, German str., for Hamburg.
3, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
3, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
3, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
3, Keong Woi, British str., for Bangkok.
3, Phra C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
3, Shelly, British str., for Bangkok.
3, Taiyick, German str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Coptic*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—
Messrs. F. F. Prentiss and A. H. Rennie,
Misses E. B. Sale and Dundy, Mr. and Mrs. E.
V. Hull, Judge and Mrs. E. S. Dundy, Mrs.
E. S. Dundy, Jr., Mrs. C. L. Lloyd and family,
Mr. and Mrs. Dane Baugh, and 159 Chinese.
Per *Formosa*, str., from London for Hong-
kong—Mrs. Norcott and infant. For Shanghai
—Mrs. Vaughan Leuces. From Singapore for
Kobe—Miss Astria Naess.
Per *Empress of Japan*, str., from Vancouver
—Mr. and Mrs. Ault, Master Ault, Mr. and Mrs.
R. de B. Layard, Prof. B. H. Chamberlain,
Capt. J. W. Lee, Messrs. L. H. Richy, Overton,
E. Hutchison, A. S. Garfit, W. Till, A. Ross,
Chun Kon Ting, Chu Wing Boo.
Per *Prinz Heinrich*, str., from Shanghai—
Mr. and Mrs. Musin, Mrs. Gales, Mrs. Moller,
Mr. Slaughton von Schewen and Mrs. von Sche-
wen, Mr. and Mrs. Furlonge, Mr. and Mrs.

Dowdall, Messrs. E. Scharf, J. Reynolds, A.
Jensen, Schickermann, Joh. Derda, R. H.
Strangmann, and Miss Jackson.

Per *Priam*, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mr. and
Mrs. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, Messrs.
Nuttall, Ardit, and Haysir.

Per *Salazie*, str., from Marseilles for Hong-
kong—Messrs. Guieu, Sprungli, Capel, Ward
Potter, Pion Kiong, Rozanweig, Feulicht, Lou-
treul, Focke, Ullmann, Charretier, and Major
Johnson. For Shanghai—Messrs. Roeper,
Rocher, Armstrong, Blanchet, Schonan, Douglas,
and Mrs. Armstrong. For Japan—Messrs.
Campbell, Matuda, Suchisuke, Douglas, Watson,
Yoshida, Radlow, Sulzer, Dujardin, Beaumetz,
Carlian, Okubo, Sarolidis, Foster, Raffray, Sar-
razin, Lourdon, Verge, Mrs. Languelier, Mrs.
de Valpinçon, Raffray, and Vergé.

Per *Hohenzollern*, str., from Nagasaki, &c.—
H.E. General-Lieut. von Gottberg, Mrs. von
Gottberg, Mrs. von Oertzen, and Mrs. John, Mr.
and Mrs. Pors, Mr. and Mrs. Payne, Mr. and
Mrs. Goslin, Misses Pors and John, Lieuts. von
Schoeler and von Nanendorf, Messrs. Heekert,
Biller, Pownell and family, Landis and family,
Wreckens, Haupt, Chilkowsky, Kurdenmoff,
Papier, Reynold, and Paver.

Per *Oceanien*, str., from Shanghai—Messrs.
Bomer, Wade Gard'ner, Karberg, and Gobbi,
Mrs. Ricco, Mr. and Mrs. Waddel, Mrs. Stewart.

DEPARTED.

Per *Thinan*, str., for Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs.
Geo. Grumble, Messrs. J. S. L. Brunton and H.
W. Bell.

Per *Wingsang*, str., for Singapore—Mrs. Chan.
For Calcutta—Mrs. Head.

Per *Ravenna*, str., from Hongkong for Singa-
pore—Messrs. B. C. T. Gray, E. Hoskins, and
G. Schey. For Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. Clark-
stone. For London via Marseilles—Mr. C. R.
Rogers, R.N. For London—Messrs. J. G. T.
Buckle, Thomas, Parker, J. D. Smart, G. Tickell,
A. C. Langley, H. Taylor, W. Vivian, W. J.
Manning, E. F. Quaintance, Jas. Riley, Robt.
Higgs, Arthur Mordan, and Rev. J. Grundy.
For Calcutta—Mr. E. Hutchison. For Colombo
—Messrs. T. E. Peters, C. de Mansfield. From
Yokohama for Colombo—Mr. E. Fisher. For
London—Messrs. D. Ward and S. Harvey.
From Kobe for Brindisi—Messrs. M. Matsui
and T. Tsukiyama. For London—Mr. R. John-
son. From Shanghai for Brindisi—Mons. A.
Zasola and M. le Comte Telfener. For London
—Mr. and Mrs. James Ferrier and 3 children,
Mrs. Pearce, Capt. R. M. Andrews, Mr. Alfred
Griffiths, Mrs. J. White, and Miss Hanbury.

Per *Thales*, str., for Swatow—Mr. and Mrs.
Colaço.

Per *Haitan*, str., for Amoy—Messrs. White,
Marshall, and Thomas. For Foochow—Misses
Andrews, Brooke, Barber, Clemson, Harrison,
Outway, Leyburn, Gardner, Little, Wathern,
and Morgan.

Per *Formosa*, str., for Amoy—Capt. Palmer.
For Tamsui—Mr. and Mrs. Layard.

Per *Formosa*, str., from Hongkong for Yoko-
hama—Mr. Alexis Haimon. For Shanghai—
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Bailey, Mr. D. C. Campbell.
From London for Yokohama—Mr. H. Smith.
From Colombo for Shanghai—Mr. E. Davis.

Per *Salazie*, str., from Hongkong for Shang-
hai—Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Skotowe, Mrs. F.
Maitland, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Lyon, Mr. and
Mrs. Probst, Mrs. F. Place da Silva and two
children; Mr. and Mrs. A. Genberg, Mr. and
Mrs. Teiffenberg, Mrs. Francisco Xavier, Col.
von Kretschmar, Miss Liveira, Messrs. Bull-
mann, E. Wilkins, L. Pflaum, N. P. Brown,
Rudolph, G. de Souza, R. D. Tata, Pereira,
Bouchard, H. J. Gedge, F. Gove, P. Block, E.
Senna, and J. Danenberg. For Kobe—Messrs.
Aug. and Alb. Sussmann. For Yokohama—
Messrs. Eugenio Fosta, J. Tallers, F. Fowler,
Throllier, O'Konor, and Kuhn, Mrs. H. R.
Rickmers, Mrs. Mayor Hoffmann, Mr. and Mrs.
E. V. Hull.

Per *Airlie*, str., for Port Darwin—Mr. J.
Mahoney. For Timor—The Right Rev. Bishop
D. Antonio J. de Medeiros, Mrs. and Miss
Gonsalves, Dr. Almeida, Revs. J. Gonsalves, F.
P. Gonsalves, M. C. Netto, L. de Molla, C. A.
dos Santos Vidal, Lieut. J. C. M. da Silva,
Engineers A. J. da Silva, J. A. da Silva, Messrs.
F. N. and Venissin Gonsalves, Miss A. Hynd-
man, Sergeant and Mrs. Menezes, Sergeant and
Mrs. F. X. da Silva, Sergeants C. A. Favares
and C. A. Sequeira, and Mr. M. Rego.